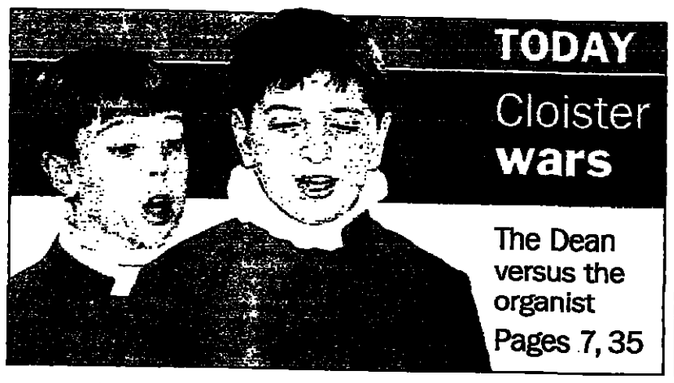
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TODAY

Cloister **wars**

The Dean versus the organist

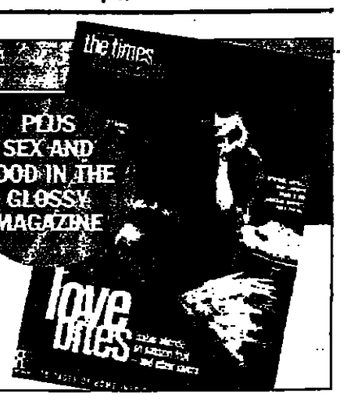
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IN THE TIMES ON SATURDAY

Exclusive: **My story** by Christopher Reeve

- The extraordinary story of Superman's recovery
- The love of his wife – and how he is determined to walk again



Plans for videos via the Internet

BT freed to compete with cable firms

BY RAYMOND SNODDY
MEDIA EDITOR

THE battle for who controls Britain's television screens hotted up yesterday as the Government announced plans to allow BT to compete with cable, and a big cable company outlined new services that will compete directly with BT throughout Britain.

Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, fulfilled a Labour manifesto promise by saying that the Government intended to give BT the right to compete with cable companies: it will be allowed to offer broadcast services to British viewers. At the same time, NTL, the third largest cable company, said that it would move outside its cable franchise areas and begin national digital services from June.

On offer will be cut-price telephone services, Internet and e-mail connections via the telephone for those who do not have a personal computer and, from early next year, a link to the new digital terrestrial television channels scheduled for launch before the end of this year.

Mrs Beckett's announcement was in line with government promises and will lift restrictions preventing telecommunications companies from offering broadcast entertainment nationally. The ban is lifted immediately for the 17 per cent of homes not covered by cable franchises and, in the wake of legislation, telecommunications groups will be able to compete with cable throughout the country from January 1, 2001.



"At the third stroke it will be Coronation Street followed by The Bill ..."

At the Labour Party conference in October 1995, Tony Blair promised to remove the barrier in return for BT's linking schools to the Internet.

The Internet service has been provided, but, for the past year, BT has been moving away from competing head-on with cable and, instead, has been concentrating on developing its Internet presence. It plans to launch home shopping and other interactive services using satellites.

BT said yesterday: "We have no plans to compete with cable with multichannel television." However, BT still welcomed the legislation because it would remove any doubt about its providing moving pictures, such as video-on-demand, via the Internet when technology allowed.

Bob Frost, chief executive of the Cable Communications Association, the industry trade body, said that Mrs Beckett's statement showed that "technology has taken over from words put down on a piece of paper". By 2001, he said, cable companies should have completed cable networks capable of connecting 17 million of Britain's 22 million homes at a cost of £12 billion and would be happy to compete with anyone.

The NLT announcement will mean more services on the television screen for those who are neither cable subscribers nor personal computer owners. The company has built a £250 million national telecommunications network and has the right to connect to customers locally via BT's national network.

The three NTL offers are:

- ☐ Telephone and PC-based Internet access for £17.95 a month including £10 of free calls and Internet access for 2p a minute during the day and 1p at evenings and weekends;
- ☐ telephone and TV-based Internet for £22.95 a month including £10 in free calls and dial-up to the web at reduced rates; and
- ☐ telephone and digital TV with integrated Internet for £27.95 a month.

Media, pages 39-42



SIMON WALKER

Lisa-Jane Station yesterday. She claimed she had been sexually harassed

Crewe station drives "green" ministers back into their cars

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE dilapidated state of Crewe railway station has shamed transport officials into abandoning plans to use trains to take European ministers 30 miles to a conference discussing "green" transport today.

Instead, 60 cars will line up at Manchester airport this morning to ferry more than 250 politicians, their partners and officials to the European Union conference in nearby Chester, which is being chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott. Crewe was rejected after Whitehall officials examined train services between the airport and Chester, and suggested that the condition of the station, where the overseas visitors would need to change trains, gave a poor image of Britain's railway network.

An official at the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions said: "The train journey was feasible, although not very convenient, but frankly Crewe station is not in a good state, although a lot of money is being spent on it. It didn't really give a very good impression."

Plans to supply environmentally-friendly gas-powered vehicles for delegates and their entourages for the trip have also been scrapped after manufacturers said they were not able to provide sufficient "green" vehicles. Instead, Ford, Rover and Vauxhall are laying on 60 top-of-the range petrol-driven cars for ministers and "people carriers", carrying seven passengers, for officials. Ironically, a highlight of the two-day conference is an exhibition of "green" cars, opened by Mr Prescott, who will unveil his Jaguar car, newly converted to gas power.

The chauffeur-driven transport laid on for overseas visitors will be in contrast to British ministers' travel arrangements. All five transport and environment ministers, led by Mr Prescott, will travel by train but will avoid a change at Crewe because there are direct trains from London to Chester, which has been refurbished and hailed as a good example of how to improve a historic station.

Crewe station was once a symbol of the Great Railway Age, standing as an imposing monument of the huge growth in train travel through the late Victorian era. It began as a small platform at a hamlet in 1837 and rapidly became the junction to six main rail routes.

Although the current station, mainly built at the turn of the century, is in grand Victorian tradition, it has never been listed, mainly because of the many changes that have been made to its structure over the last century.

A £1.6 million refurbishment is currently being carried out by Railtrack but Richard Tinker, secretary of the Railway Heritage Trust, said: "Although Crewe is very historic, there is a rather spoiled splendour about the station and certainly is not one of my favourite stations. It still has plenty of character but it has limited merit as a heritage location."

Banks demands MCC reballot

The Sports Minister Tony Banks has demanded that the MCC order a reballot over the admission of women. He made his move after it emerged that cricket officials withheld legal advice that would have led to women joining the club. Members voted 6,969 to 5,538 in favour of admitting women in February, but fell short of a two-thirds majority. However, a simple majority would have done.

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Uranium 'being flown to Britain'

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A SMALL consignment of weapons-grade uranium, removed from a research reactor outside Tbilisi in Georgia as part of a secret deal with Washington and London, appeared to be on its way to Britain last night.

Although details of the arrival of the highly-enriched uranium were being kept secret, a US military transport aircraft, believed to be carrying the nuclear fuel, took off from Tbilisi yesterday.

Zurab Saralidze, the deputy head of the Physics Institute near Tbilisi where the substance was stored, confirmed that it had been removed "overnight".

The 9 lbs of "fresh" weapons-grade uranium and 1.7 lbs of spent nuclear fuel were being flown to Scotland to be stored initially at the UK Atomic Energy Agency's research plant at Dounreay. It was not clear whether the substance would be flown directly to the Dounreay runway or whether it would be taken to an airport such as Prestwick, near Glasgow, before completing the journey by road.

The American aircraft left Tbilisi at about 6 pm local time, 1 pm BST. Soon afterwards security men who had been guarding the periphery of the airport left, saying the uranium had been taken out of the country. There was no official confirmation and Georgian officials refused to comment.

The aircraft would take about 10 hours to fly directly from Tbilisi to Dounreay. It would not be able to complete the journey without refuelling, either in mid-air or during a stopover.



Mac Okamoto leaves the tribunal in Croydon

Japanese boss was 'rude over' Princess'

PETER FOSTER

A WOMAN executive hired by the Shirayama Shokusan Company to oversee the launch of the London Aquarium at County Hall, the former home of the Greater London Council, told a tribunal yesterday how her Japanese boss responded with abuse against the Royal Family when she suggested that the building be opened by Diana, Princess of Wales.

Lisa-Jane Station told the tribunal at Croydon, south London, that Mac Okamoto, the corporation's European head, made derogatory remarks about British people and said he did not want that "big nosed Princess" to open the aquarium. Miss Station, 37, is claiming racial and sexual harassment and breach of contract against the multi-million pound Shirayama Corporation and its head, Shokusan Shirayama.

Her allegations were made as the Princess's memorial fund confirmed it would accept an offer of free office space from the corporation.

The tribunal, page 3

Ministers quit over paedophile's escape



Dutroux, shortly after he was recaptured

BY CHARLES BREMNER

TWO Belgian ministers resigned last night after Marc Dutroux, the alleged child-killer, escaped from a court building and led Belgian police on a two-hour motorway chase before being recaptured in a nearby forest.

Stefaan De Clerck and Johan Vande Lanotte, the Justice and Interior Ministers in the Government of Jean-Luc Dehaene, took the blame for the latest bungling by the Belgian police, a force which demonstrated breathtaking incompetence with its handling of the Dutroux case in 1996.

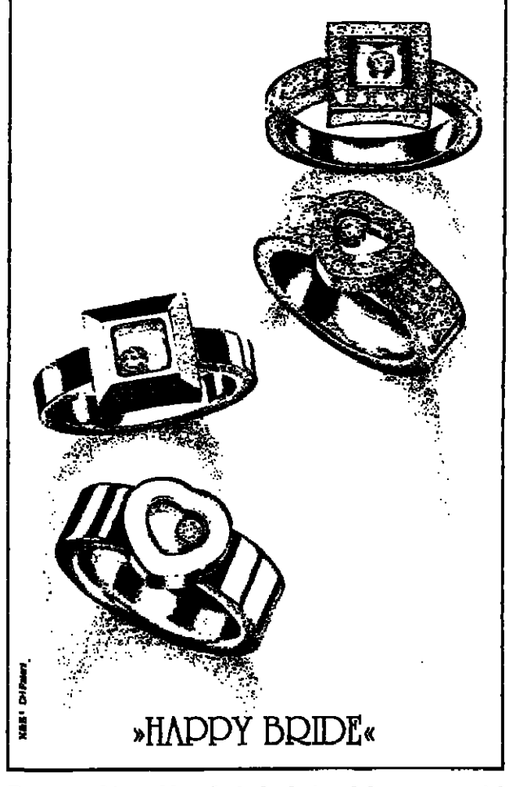
Dutroux, supposedly the most closely-guarded criminal in Belgian history, managed to overpower a gendarme in the courthouse of the southern city of Neufchâteau. The man whose name became a byword for the widely perceived rot at the heart of the Belgian system, was making a regular afternoon visit to consult the files in the case against him ahead of his trial later this year for four child murders in 1996. Seizing the officer's pistol, Dutroux, 41, held up a motorist and drove off with his Renault Mégane. Hundreds of police and security forces set off in pursuit as France, Luxembourg and Germany, which all have nearby borders, closed their frontiers. He changed vehicles on the motorway heading towards nearby Luxembourg, police said, before vanishing into a side road.

In Brussels, parliament halted its session as the conservative opposition demanded the resignation of the Dehaene Government. There was confusion when the Senate leader solemnly told his chamber that Dutroux had been arrested. The report was then denied by the Justice Ministry and police as German police said they suspected that Dutroux may have driven straight through Luxembourg into Germany.

Three hours after Dutroux's escape, the police reported that he had been captured, on foot, in the Chiny forest, a few miles from Neufchâteau. His French lawyer explained that he had escaped "because he could not stand prison any more". Dutroux, a convicted child rapist, denies murdering the girls, whose bodies were found in the grounds of his home.

Belgian crisis, page 15

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The steely rise of a lady firm of purpose and sure of content

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

The comparison with Lady Macbeth is irresistible. *Is this a dagger which I see before me?* Lady — well, *Mrs* — Liddell clutched a pen fiercely in her right hand as she stood at the Dispatch box at Treasury Questions yesterday, bringing her left hand down in a cruel chopping motion as she spoke.

Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, was once a senior executive in Robert Maxwell's Corporate Affairs Department.

Her rise to political office seems to have been smooth and relentless. Trim, ice-cool and with a genteel Scottish accent, she has not so much big hair as *hard* hair. One can imagine her in the Special Branch of the Zanzibar police.

Her brain is good, her briefing impeccable and her grip unwavering. This is a woman who treads carefully yet with confident precision. She is routinely — almost mechanically — polite to her own side; routinely dismissive of every Opposition enquiry. A Liberal Democrat (Twickenham's Dr Vincent Cable) asked about the danger that EU countries which do not join the single currency will be marginalised. Eleven were *joining*, he told MPs worriedly; only four were not.

"Worry about the 11," shouted Dennis Skinner.

Cable and his friends were "consistently wrong on this as they are on other matters," said Liddell. Her face shows no emotion. Replies are ultra-cautious but delivered with the command of one giving dictation. She never says anything, but she says it with polish. She *never* speculates.

There would be, she added to Dr Cable, "an orderly and smooth decision."

Orderliness, tidiness and smoothness seemed to be a recurring theme in her discourse. To Sir Peter Tapsell (C, Louth & Horncastle), who had put powerfully his concern that nationalistic horse-trading about the post of Governor of the European Central Bank was exactly how this was *not* supposed to be decided, Mrs Liddell replied that "the decision will be made in an orderly manner in due course." There would be no problem.

We fail! But screw your courage to the sticking-place! And we'll not fail.

She told MPs (enquiring about the Mauritius Mandate) that developing countries would have "sound economic policies". Indeed, they were "clearly exhibiting determination to have sound economic policies."

But of course they would do so in a smooth and orderly manner. Her hand began to chop again.

Out, damned spot! out I say!

Mrs Liddell was wearing a tartan jacket in sharp primary colours of aniline clarity. A high-necked tunic-blouse secured by decorated buttons with a lacquered look (Mandarin-chic?) was well displayed in her erect, poised bearing.

A Liberal Democrat, Dr Jenny Tonge (Richmond), asked about aid to the poorest. "I don't confirm her point," said Liddell. Such aid must be "specific". She likes the word "specific," too.

It is impossible not to see something admirable in Mrs Liddell's competence and *sang-froid*. Beside her Geoffrey Robinson chuntered aimiably away about this and that, more lunch-guest than Paymaster General, answering a pale David ("two-brains") Willetts (C, Havant). The bald patch on Mr Willetts's head has a dreadful wound on it, stitched up in the shape of an arrow. Someone must have clubbed him with the pointed end of a steam-iron; but he stood up easily to Robinson.

Mrs Liddell watched, expressionless as Robinson burbled. *Infirm of purpose! Give me the daggers.*

Beside her sat the Monarch of 11 Downing Street, Gordon Brown, pale and crumpled. *Yet who would have thought the old man to have had so much blood in him?*

Cook praises spy agencies for curbing terror

James Landale and **Michael Evans** report on an unusual openness over MI6 and GCHQ operations

ROBIN COOK paid an unprecedented tribute to Britain's intelligence services last night, praising MI6 and GCHQ, the electronic eavesdropping centre, for covert operations that helped to track down terrorists and to thwart attempts by Iran and Iraq to build weapons of mass destruction.

Mr Cook said that in his first year as Foreign Secretary, he had been struck by the "range and quality" of their output and told an audience in the City of London that they had saved lives by disrupting the activities of terrorists.

He said the two agencies had played a "crucial role" in revealing President Saddam Hussein's biological and chemical weapons programmes and "his continuing ambitions to stockpile these weapons of mass destruction".

They had also "tracked Iran's nuclear weapons programme and have enabled us to disrupt Iranian attempts to procure British technology".

Although some of his predecessors, notably Lord Hurd of Westwell, have referred to the work of the Secret Intelligence Service and the Cheltenham-based signals intelligence facility in Commons debates, it is the first time that a Foreign Secretary has been so open about particular operations.

Presenting his first annual foreign policy report during a speech at the Mansion House, Mr Cook said the two agencies, for which he is accountable to Parliament, had responded to the "fresh priorities" of the new Government.

He said: "The results of their work cannot speak for themselves. The nature of what they do means that we cannot shout about their achievements if we want them to remain effective."

However, he went on to list some of their operations, all of which reflected the changing priorities of both MI6 and GCHQ. On their counter-terrorist work, Mr Cook said the two agencies had given the Government "an idea of terrorist intentions, helping us stay one step ahead".

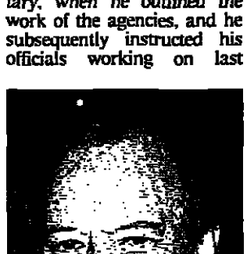
After singling out the part MI6 and GCHQ had played in uncovering the activities of Iranian agents trying to buy high-tech equipment from British companies, he also praised the efforts made in helping the police and Customs in tackling the "drugs menace".

"Support from the intelligence agencies has resulted in the seizure of many tonnes of narcotics and cannabis and the arrest of dozens of criminals," Mr Cook said. During a visit to Malaysia in August last year, the Foreign Secretary announced that the resources of MI6 would be used to try to disrupt the drug trafficking smuggling routes.

In his speech last night, Mr Cook highlighted the work by MI6 and GCHQ in countering money-laundering and fraud in the City of London. Both MI6 and GCHQ, like MI5, the domestic security service, now include serious crime among their priority activities.

According to Foreign Office sources, Mr Cook had been determined to include the work of the intelligence services in his Mansion House address because of his genuine appreciation of their achievements over the past 12 months.

He recently appeared before the Parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee, chaired by Sir Tom King, the former Tory Defence Secretary, when he outlined the work of the agencies, and he subsequently instructed his officials working on last night's speech to consult MI6 and GCHQ about what he might say of their work in public.



Cook: said the Security Services had saved lives

Mr Cook regularly meets Sir David Spedding, the Chief of the Secret Intelligence Service, and he is well acquainted with Kevin Tebbit, the Director of GCHQ, who was deputy Under Secretary at the Foreign Office, responsible for defence and intelligence, before being appointed to the Cheltenham job last December.

The budgets of MI6, GCHQ and MI5 have all been examined as part of the Government's comprehensive spending review and are believed to have escaped any significant cutbacks. Mr Cook's decision to pay a public tribute to the work of MI6 and GCHQ appeared to indicate that their roles in the future are safeguarded.

The frank appraisal of their work marked the latest stage in the Government's attempt to instil greater openness throughout Whitehall. However, Foreign Office sources said this did not mean that Mr Cook or any other minister would ever divulge details of secret operations.

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "This is an unprecedented statement. It is offered in order to show greater openness in what we all know is a difficult area. But the Foreign Secretary wanted to make these points clear. This is the first time that a Government minister has set out in this way what is going on in the intelligence community."

In his speech to businessmen and London's diplomatic corps, Mr Cook said he looked on the past year with pride and was "bullish" about the department's future prospects.

The Government, he said, had transformed Britain's relations with Europe, which fully understood Tony Blair's position on a single currency. "They know that when the time is right we will make our decision to join on a hard-headed assessment of economic reality," he said. He spoke of the "strengthened alliance" between London and Washington.

ANDRE CAMARA



The French Sports Minister, Marie-George Buffet, leaving the London meeting

England team take their partners for loving Cup

BY ADRIAN LEE

ENGLAND'S footballers are likely to be allowed conjugal visits by their wives and girlfriends during the World Cup finals.

The Football Association hinted yesterday that visits would be arranged throughout the tournament, reopening the debate about whether sex improves or impairs athletic performance.

With the World Cup being the longest in history — at six weeks — FA officials believe it would be unfair to separate players from their loved ones for so long.

Glenn Hoddle, the England manager, has decreed that the hotel minibars must be stripped of alcohol. But, barring a disastrous early exit from the tournament, it is likely that at least two short visits by wives and girlfriends to the hotel will be allowed. Although a final decision has still to be made, an FA spokesman said: "Having wives and girlfriends around is part of building team morale."

Germany and Argentina, both previous World Cup winners, have already decided that women will not be allowed near the team. England players received visits from spouses during the 1990 tournament, in Italy, where the reached the semi-final.

Injury and selection permitting, celebrity girlfriends who may visit the England camp include Victoria Adams or Posh Spice, the fiancée of midfielder David Beckham, the pop star Louise, fiancée of Jamie Redknapp, and the television presenter Dani Behr, frequently spotted on Les Ferdinand's arm.

Last night sports psychologists clashed with traditionalist trainers on the merits of sex. "It is not a bad idea at all," said Dr George Sik of Aspire Partnership in south-west London, which works with football teams and individual players. "If anything, it will give players more confidence."

Carole Seheult, who works with leading athletes and footballers, said: "It is a bit barbaric and does not treat the players as responsible human beings who can make up their own minds about these things."

But Ronnie Davies, former trainer of the boxer Chris Eubank, said: "These players are well-paid to do a job for their country and they should make the sacrifice.

Having women around is distracting. Without them, you become mean and concentrate. You need a certain amount of aggression on the pitch."

French face huge fine for ticket fiasco

BY CHARLES BREMNER

THE European Commission is to go ahead with plans to impose an expected multi-million pound fine on the French organisers of the World Cup for their failure to provide other European fans with adequate access to the matches.

Karel van Miert, the EU Commissioner for Trade Competition, is taking the action because of France's failure to provide an adequate remedy to the commission's initial charge last January that it was breaching the EU's laws by allocating six out of ten of the 2.5 million tickets to French residents.

This amounted to "abuse of dominant position" under EU law, Mr van Miert said.

The decision was not prompted by the fiasco of this week's French ticket sales by telephone, in which 110,000 tickets were offered to tens of millions of Europeans. However, France promised yesterday to make improvements.

Marie-George Buffet, the French Sports Minister, told Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, and Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, that the authorities would consider their plea for specific telephone numbers to be given for each World Cup match for which English and Scottish fans are trying to get tickets.

Mr Smith said they had expressed concern at the difficulties fans in Britain were facing in trying to gain access to the new tickets.

"We have asked the French authorities to consider allocating a specific telephone number to each specific game, in order to eliminate the chaos that has occurred in the last two days, with everyone across Europe trying the same number at the same time. The French authorities have agreed to consider this possibility."

Mme Buffet gave no hope of any further concessions on tickets. Speaking in French after the meeting, she said: "With two and a half million seats, and 80 million requests, there will be people in France and in other countries who won't get seats, and some people will be unhappy, but we will do our best to ensure that it will be a successful event for the people."

The French organisers of the World Cup are facing a fine of up to £15 million. Up to 10 per cent of all revenue, including ticket sales, broadcasting rights and sponsorship, could be forfeited. Income from the last World Cup, in the United States in 1994, was £150 million. In reality the fine, which will be announced in the autumn, is likely to be at the lower end of the scale, sources in Brussels said.

The fine would have to be approved by the full commission after months of consultations. Mr van Miert's spokesman said that there would be a "decision in the fall, most likely with a fine attached to it".

Mr van Miert, who is himself a keen soccer fan, would "certainly propose a fine" to his fellow commissioners, the spokesman said.

The commission will give the CFO, the organising committee, legal notification within the next two weeks, laying out its grievances in a "statement of objections". The organisers will then have a month in which to reply. This will probably lead to an oral hearing, after the tournament is over, which could bring the CFO face to face with some of the national soccer federations that have complained most about the allocation of tickets.

Meanwhile, the organisers said yesterday that only a third of the last remaining tickets had been sold after two days, with most fans still unable to get through to operators.

A spokesman, Bruno Travade, said that seven million people had telephoned the ticket hotline yesterday, compared to more than 20 million the day before. He said so far just 35,000 of the 110,000 remaining tickets had been sold.

ASYLUM PLEA

Five young Albanian footballers have demanded political asylum after playing in a youth tournament in England. Officials of one of the teams they competed against have been given permission to foster the boys, aged 14 and 15, at their homes in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire. Ledion Hoxha, Olger Vila, Eris Duka, Jonel Sollioniairi and Enkeled Vila disappeared when due to leave Heathrow Airport.

Child asthma rife in Britain

BY IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN has one of the highest rates of childhood asthma in the world, according to a study of nearly half a million children from 56 countries.

The illness affects over one million children in Britain, and only Ireland, Australia and New Zealand have proportionately as many young sufferers. The lowest prevalence of the condition among children in the 13-14 age group was in eastern Europe, Indonesia, Greece, China, Taiwan, Uzbekistan, India and Ethiopia.

These countries also had a low incidence of eczema, an allergic condition which the survey found is most widespread in Scandinavia.

At 99 of the 156 centres collecting information, children were shown videos of a person wheezing and then asked if their breathing was similar. This was done to allow more accurate recognition of clinical asthma.

The study, led by Professor Richard Beasley from Wellington, New Zealand, and published today in *The Lancet*, showed enormous variations in the incidence of the breathing diseases surveyed, with some places having 60 times the levels of others.

The large variations suggested that environmental factors were critical to the development of the childhood disorders.

Eccles joins Times board

THE five independent national directors of Times Newspapers Holdings Ltd have unanimously nominated Baroness Eccles of Moulton to join the board in succession to Lord Neill of Bladen, who resigned on his appointment as chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. Lady Eccles has accepted the nomination, which will be confirmed at the next meeting of the board on June 9.

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هكذا من الأصل

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McCartney pleads for privacy as media head for secret home

SIR Paul McCartney asked for privacy yesterday after it became clear that his wife had died in Arizona and not California, as first reported. Early reports that Linda McCartney had been cremated in Santa Barbara fuelled confusion and rumours that her death had been assisted, which was strenuously denied by the family.

Yesterday Sir Paul's spokesman, Geoff Baker, admitted he had deceived the media to maintain the family's privacy as they came to terms with Lady McCartney's death. Sir Paul issued a statement requesting that the family should

TV crews and sightseers head for the Arizona ranch where wife died, reports **Giles Whittell** from Tucson

be allowed its "one small place of privacy". It said: "We know that ordinary people would want our request for simple privacy to be respected. This is a personal request from me."

Yesterday the hideaway was already under siege as sightseers and British and American television crews descended on the 500-acre ranch in the mountains east of Tucson. A local official confirmed to the *Arizona Daily Star* that Lady McCartney had died there. Mr Baker admitted that she did not die in Santa Barbara, as originally stated, but spent her final days "in a place that was private to her and her family". He added: "It was a decoy. It was nothing to do with the McCartneys. It was my decision.

"I said she had died in Santa Barbara, because if I had said where she died it would have been overrun straight away and they needed time, because of their grief, to come back in private. Morally, I have done nothing wrong and legally I have done nothing wrong. I am just trying to keep this family together."

After aerial photographs of the ranch were widely published yesterday, Mr Baker spoke to Sir Paul and relayed his wishes: "Paul is making a personal appeal to the press and public for his family to be allowed one small place of privacy in the wake of the death of Linda. Paul is personally appealing for the press to back off from identifying the American home where she passed away. This home is the only place on this planet where the McCartney family has enjoyed any anonymity for the past 20 years. Now in the light of reports from America, that anonymity is in jeopardy."

The writer Carla Lane, a close friend of Lady McCartney, said: "When I spoke to Paul this morning, he told me: 'We only had one place in the world and we needed to keep it private, especially now. If it hadn't been her place, we could have sold it and bought another one, but not after she died there.' "

Miss Lane said: "But he wasn't uptight about it, he was philosophical. He said, 'I understand why people do this, there's a very good side to it. It's giving Linda one extra day of getting her vegetarian message over.' " She added: "I feel the family is entitled to a tiny untruth to keep their privacy in grief."

Hours before Sir Paul's appeal, producers from CNN said they were planning to broadcast live from the ranch at 4am local time. Mr Baker, a former publicist for the Beatles, said the McCartney family had "suffered terribly" and deserved to be allowed to "grieve in peace after [the media's] outrageous intrusion".

A Tucson official has confirmed that an Arizona Cancer Centre doctor signed Lady McCartney's death certificate last week and that the Pima County medical examiner authorised her cremation. Without official confirmation, the Santa Barbara sheriff department was continuing its investigation.

Japanese boss 'called British women fat pigs'

Executive tells tribunal she was subjected to racist and sexist comments, writes **Peter Foster**

THE head of a Japanese firm in London described British women as "fat pigs" and bombarded his female general manager with sexist and racist comments, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

Mac Okamoto, the European head of the Shirayama Shokusam corporation, a property development company which bought County Hall, the premises of the former Greater London Council, pestered Lisa-Jane Statton for after-hours dinner appointments, she claimed. Miss Statton, 37, told the tribunal at Croydon, South London, that she had been ordered to attend business dinners alone with Mr Okamoto two or three times a week, often with no specific purpose.

"Often he would get us to go out to a karaoke bar. Often I was the only woman and he would insist I sing love-song duets with him. One of his favourite songs was *Love Is All Around*," she said.

Mr Okamoto sent a memo to a colleague saying he would not dismiss Miss Statton "until he had had sex with her", the tribunal was told.

Miss Stratton, a marketing executive, was hired by Shirayama in August 1996 on a £47,000 salary to oversee the launch of the London Aquarium at County Hall. She is claiming racial and sexual harassment and breach of contract against the multi-million pound Shirayama corporation and its head, Shokusan Shirayama.

Watched by Mr Okamoto at the back of the tribunal, Miss Statton, who has dual British and US citizenship but speaks with a strong American accent, said he made jokes about Jews, the Americans, and Pearl Harbour.

When Miss Statton invited Diana, Princess of Wales, to the aquarium's launch in March 1997 Mr Okamoto is said to have responded with a catalogue of abuse against the Royal Family. "He said we did not want that big-nosed Princess to open the aquarium. He said he hated the Royals and Britain should be a republic. He used f-words whenever he referred to the Princess.

"One of his regular topics of conversation was British people and how lazy they were. He often made derogatory remarks about British women and called them 'bloody fat pigs'," she said.

Mr Okamoto's alleged remarks come at an awkward time for the Shirayama corporation. Yesterday, the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund confirmed it would be taking up the corporation's offer of free office space at County Hall.

Miss Statton also accused Mr Okamoto of making continued and unwanted reference to her appearance and use of make-up. "At my interview he commented that I reminded him of Marilyn Monroe."

On another occasion Miss Statton said that when she and her boss met Shokusan Shirayama she was told not to wear a skirt: "Mr Okamoto said Mr Shirayama's wife was jealous of attractive women. I was to talk to Mr Shirayama but not to his wife. He said Mr Shirayama was a womaniser with a number of girlfriends and may take a liking to me if I wore a skirt, and this might lead to my dismissal."

Miss Statton said Mr Okamoto pressed her about her previous boyfriends. He is also alleged to have made anti-Semitic remarks about Michael Howard, the former Home Secretary.

Miss Statton also told how she received an anonymous gift of a £5,200 watch on her birthday in November 1996. She later discovered the gift was from Mr Okamoto. "I was extremely embarrassed," she said.

She told how Mr Okamoto's attitude to her would alternate between frosty and affectionate depeding on his mood. Sometimes memos were addressed to "Dear Lady", "L-J" or even "Empress" but at other times he used simply "General Manager".

Under cross-examination Miss Statton, sometimes close to tears, said she felt Mr Okamoto had wanted to have sex with her, although she admitted he had never made physical advances of any kind. "He was certainly trying to gauge a way to open up a sexual relationship. When I sat with him I would sit there petrified where the conversation would lead," she said.

SIMON WALKER



Mac Okamoto of the Shirayama corporation leaving the tribunal yesterday

However, Andrew Hillier, for the Shirayama corporation, said Miss Statton's allegation that she had dinner with Mr Okamoto more than a dozen times in 1997 was a gross exaggeration. He added that Mr Okamoto's comments about the decline of the United States as a superpower and the economic ascendancy of Germany one night over dinner were nothing more than "thought-provoking" discussion and not racial discrimination.

In November 1997, a week after filing for sexual harrassment and after two weeks' leave for stress-related illness, Miss Statton was dismissed after 14 months in her job. The corporation, which denied her allegations, said Miss Statton had been sacked for failure to meet customer targets at the aquarium and keeping proper control over budgets.

The tribunal continues.

Banks presses MCC for new vote on women

BY STAFF REPORTERS

TONY BANKS, the Sports Minister, is demanding the MCC orders a reballot over the admission of female members after it emerged that officials withheld legal advice that would have led to women joining the all-male club.

Members voted 6,969 to 5,538 in favour of admitting women in February, short of the two-thirds majority required for historic change.

But yesterday it was disclosed that the MCC committee that organised the ballot had been told by its legal advisers, Simmons and Simmons, before the vote that under club rules only a simple majority would be needed.

However, the advice was suppressed while the MCC committee continued to state that it overwhelmingly supported admitting women.

Last night members dissatisfied by their narrow failure in the vote threatened legal action and accused the MCC committee of a "cover-up".

Mr Banks called for an immediate reballot. "If I had been on the losing side where there was a majority, I would feel women had been deprived of membership on a technicality. To withhold crucial legal advice is at the very least unwise and could be considered duplicitous."

But Chris Rea, MCC spokesman, said: "The lawyers deemed the issue to be a change of regulation rather than a rule, for which a straight 51-49 would be enough. The major legal minds on the committee, however, advised that it was a rule change and thus needing a two-thirds majority."

The committee includes former cricketers such as Sir Ted Dexter and Tony Lewis, and enthusiastic amateurs such as Sir Tim Rice and Lord Alexander of Weedon. MCC's failure to admit women last year meant that it was refused a £4.5 million lottery grant for rebuilding.

Before the February vote, the committee pressed on members the damaging effect the continued ban on women was having on their chances of securing lottery money and corporate sponsorship.

They have also been keen to have the MCC admit women of its own volition rather than be forced into it on the recommendation of an Equal Opportunities Commission report being examined by the Government.

Rachael Heyhoe Flint, former captain of the England's women's cricket team, said that withholding the legal advice appeared to contradict the committee's enthusiasm for admitting female members in the run-up to the vote.

She said: "It gives ground for a legal challenge. I know that from those who voted yes, who were very disappointed when the vote was lost, someone will come forward and challenge the committee."



Heyhoe Flint backs a legal challenge

Cross-Channel search for pilot who vanished

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE have launched a cross-Channel investigation into the disappearance of an amateur pilot.

Roger Fiennes, 57, went missing over the sea without any sign of his Tiger Moth or body. Kent police confirmed yesterday that they were asking masters whose vessels were in the Channel last weekend for any sightings of the aircraft. French police are being asked to check northern airfields in case Mr Fiennes turned back and landed.

Mr Fiennes is a second cousin of Sir Ranulph Fiennes, the explorer, and the director of several aviation and property companies. He flew to Dieppe last Sunday from Headcorn in Kent and went missing on his return trip. He has been flying for ten years and the trip was a pleasure flight in the aircraft, which was built in 1939.

Police say he had a happy family life with his partner and two children. There was no reason financially for him to go missing and he was not under investigation by police. They have ruled out any suggestion that foul play was involved in his disappearance.

The aircraft would have stayed afloat for only a few minutes if it had crashed but police are puzzled that nobody saw it come down.

The cloud level was high on Sunday, there was hardly any wind and visibility was about 10 miles. The area around Dieppe harbour is fairly quiet but further out in the Channel there is always plenty of maritime traffic. Cross-Channel ferry crews have also been asked to look out for wreckage.

Police have have set up an incident room and are treating the matter as a missing person inquiry. They have also been making checks on Mr Fiennes's movements while he was in Dieppe. Detective Inspector David Withers said: "We are keeping an open mind. He could still be alive. It is possible he might have deliberately disappeared or gone back to France."



Fiennes: police have ruled out foul play

Soldier jailed for killing lover

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A FORMER soldier who once saved shoppers' lives by carrying a live bomb out of a crowded department store in Northern Ireland was jailed for 4½ years yesterday at Mold Crown Court for killing his lover.

Hefin Jones, 45, a Royal Welch Fusilier, stopped taking medication to combat chronic depression three weeks after moving in with his lover, Elaine Topham, 41, a mother of two, in her flat in Colwyn Bay, Clwyd.

Jones, a chronic alcoholic who had been in and out of hospital for his psychiatric disorders over two decades, said he threw his drugs down the toilet at the suggestion of his lover. Later he killed her after a quarrel developed from a drinking session, breaking bones in her neck and face. Mrs Topham, who had 31 separate injuries to her body, died from internal bleeding after a heavy blow to her stomach. Jones denied murdering Mrs Topham, but his plea of guilty to manslaughter due to diminished responsibility was accepted by the prosecution. Jones told the court that he remembered nothing of the attack on Mrs Topham.

Mr Justice Thomas told him that he had beaten the dead woman horrifically, punching, kicking and using a belt on her. He said: "What happened that night was a result of both drinking heavily and you not taking medication and was a tragedy, particularly so for her two children."

The court was told that Jones suffered post-traumatic stress disorder after serving three tours in Northern Ireland with the fusiliers in the 1970s. He had been admitted voluntarily 20 times over more than 20 years at the former North Wales Hospital for Nervous Disporders, in Denbigh, where he was treated for depression.

Alex Carlisle, QC, for the defence, told the court that Jones had been unable to cope with his experiences following his military experience in the Province.

On one occasion, contrary to accepted practise, he carried a bomb out of a Woolworths store in Londonderry and threw it over a fence into a field.

Even more traumatic was an incident when a friend and fellow fusilier was blown up in front of him. Jones was given the responsibility of collecting his friend's remains and arranging for them to be sent for autopsy.

Mr Carlisle said there had been some kind of quarrel in which Jones had uncharacteristically exploded. The future risk of any repetition was remote, he said.

Michael Farmer, QC, for the prosecution, said that it was clear that she had been dead for some time before the alarm was raised. He said that, although Jones had stopped accepting psychiatric help, there was no way that he could be compelled to take treatment.

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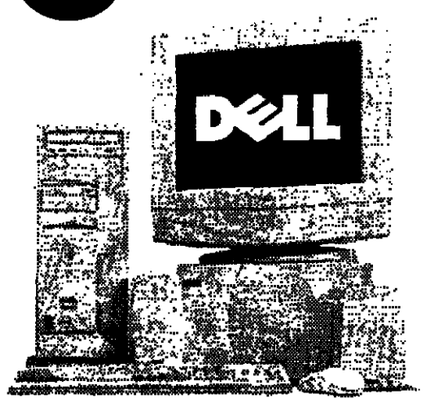
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a memorial
fountain for
DIANA
in Weekend



REVEALED:
Leonardo
Di Caprio's
four-legged friend
in meg@

Trailblazing editor takes Express ticket out of Independent

BY RAYMOND SNODDY AND CAROL MIDGLEY

ROSIE BOYCOTT, the first woman to be editor of a British broadsheet newspaper, is leaving *The Independent* and is expected to edit the *Express* newspapers.

Miss Boycott, who became Editor of *The Independent on Sunday* in 1996, had been co-editing both of the *Independent* titles with Andrew Marr. They had been called the "dream team" but their partnership appears to have lasted less than four months.

Last night she was understood to be about to accept the editorship at the Express newspaper group, although executives at *The Independent* said that her formal resignation had not been received.

Richard Addis, appointed Editor of the seven-day *Express* in 1996, was expected to leave once a settlement had been negotiated. Circulation under his leadership had stablised and had shown modest signs of growth on weekdays.

Ms Boycott, who has a reputation for flair and controversy, is likely to be hired to try to compete more vigorously with the *Daily Mail*, the *Express's* hugely successful midmarket rival. A spokeswoman for Express Newspapers refused to comment yesterday.

Ms Boycott, who has led a campaign for the legalisation of cannabis, is understood to have felt that her position had been undermined by the return of Mr Marr, whom she had replaced as Editor of *The Independent*.

Mr Marr, who has been in charge of the comment pages since his return, after the Mirror Group sold its stake in the papers, ran a recent editorial saying that the time was not right to decriminalise cannabis. Miss Boycott saw this as a public attempt to undermine her.

Her decision to leave was said to have been finalised when she discovered that most of the investment in the titles was to go into hiring new commentators rather than strengthening the news coverage. Ms Boycott believed that she had been promised more substantial investment by the new owner Tony O'Reilly, chairman of the Independent group of Ireland.

Express executives have been called to a meeting this morning to discuss the staff changes when Lord Hollick, chief executive, arrives back from a business trip to America.

Media, pages 39 to 42

NICHOLAS TURPIN



Rosie Boycott, who has led a campaign for the legalisation of cannabis

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Principal misused university expenses

BY DAVID CHARTER
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE National Audit Office calls today for a charter for whistleblowers after investigating the "disturbing" misuse of public funds at Glasgow Caledonian University.

An anonymous tip-off led the office to uncover a series of abuses of power by Stan Mason, the principal, who was dismissed for gross misconduct after its initial inquiry. Professor Mason, who earned £123,000 a year, "improperly" used two cars at the university's expense for a number of years, a report published today states.

Along with a group of senior staff, he "unjustifiably" flew by business class to Malaysia and "unacceptably" took a holiday at the university's expense at the end of the working trip.

The report says Professor Mason should repay a £2,400 garaging fee that he received from the university for one of the cars. It calls for a further independent inquiry into the appearance of Professor Mason's two sons, Andrew and David, on the university payroll. It also lists measures to improve "poorly drafted" and "ill-defined" management procedures. The office said the inquiry showed the need to set up "whistleblowing procedures" for university staff.

David Davis, the chairman of the Commons Public Accounts Committee, said: "The position at Glasgow Caledonian University should not have been allowed to deteriorate to such an extent.

"Checks and balances which should prevent these problems arising and protect public money were absent or ineffective. Mechanisms ... must be revisited to ensure this cannot happen elsewhere. Staff should be encouraged to speak up and speak out when they witness wrongdoing."

Professor Mason was sacked last September and is challenging the decision at an industrial tribunal.

Pensioner 'was killed for gun collection'

A RETIRED town clerk was murdered for his valuable gun collection by a burglar who chose him from a book that listed prominent people, a court was told yesterday.

Kenneth Speakman, 84, was handcuffed, beaten about the head and strangled with the cord from his dressing gown after Anthony Swindells had ransacked his home in Ramsgate, Kent.

Michael Austin-Smith, QC, for the prosecution, said: "It was a pitiless killing of an old man who could have presented no threat at all to his assailant." His daughter found him the next day.

Swindells had highlighted his victim's name in a copy of *Debrett's People of Kent*, Maidstone Crown Court was told.

Swindells, 40, was caught after he was arrested for another incident. Police recovered the stolen guns and found a raincoat with Mr Speakman's blood on it at the suspect's house. Forensic tests proved that a cigarette found at the murder scene was contaminated with Swindells's saliva.

Swindells, from Broadstairs, Kent, pleads guilty to robbery but denies murder. He claims that one of two people, Billy Tomlinson or another man called Emmy he recruited for the robbery, had killed Mr Speakman.

He told police he had intended only robbery and that Mr Speakman was still alive when he left the house, leaving one of his accomplices inside.

Mr Austin-Smith said: "The prosecution say this is nonsense. The two men did not exist." The trial continues.

CORRECTION

It was not Air-India that has had seven accidents in the past decade (report, March 19) but Indian Airlines, an entirely different company. Air-India has had no fatal crashes in the past ten years.

Radio team to go down Tube

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE favourite London Underground station of radio comedy fans reopens next week after six years and a £10 million modernisation.

Mornington Crescent, which gave its name to the panel game in the long-running Radio 4 series *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue*, will be reopened on Monday by the stars of the show, Humphrey Lyttleton, Graeme Garden, Barry Cryer and Tim Brooke-Taylor.

In the radio show, Mornington Crescent is for some unstated reason the ultimate goal as panellists pretend to negotiate their way around the Underground using undisclosed rules which are apparently rather more complex than those of chess.

Work on the station, a Grade II listed building, was dogged by problems almost from its start in October 1992. A shortage of funds in 1993 meant London Underground had to mothball the project for three years.

The work which has been carried out includes the installation of closed-circuit security cameras, new lifts, lighting, signs, water seepage treatment and new ticket gates.

The station first opened on June 22, 1907, as a stop on the Charing Cross, Edgware and Hampstead railway and was originally to have been called Seymour Street, which would not perhaps have had sufficient charm to bring radio fame.

It is understood that the rules of the Mornington Crescent game will not be affected by the changes — but if they are, only Lyttleton, the arbitrary chairman of *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue*, will know.

هكذا من الأصل

Nanny freed on bail from jail's hospital wing

By Stephen Farrell and Adam Fresco

AN AUSTRALIAN nanny was freed on bail yesterday, less than 48 hours after the death of a six-month-old girl who allegedly suffered brain injuries while in her care.

Louise Sullivan, 26, was released from the hospital wing of Holloway prison after her lawyers applied for conditional bail during a closed hearing at the Old Bailey.

The move came as Miss Sullivan's family enlisted the help of Harry M. Miller, an Australian public relations adviser who arranged for the funeral of the INXS singer Michael Hutchence to be televised. All inquiries were referred to him in Australia.

Miss Sullivan is charged with causing grievous bodily harm to Caroline Jongen on April 17. She was not in court yesterday when the judge agreed her release until her next appearance at Clerkenwell Magistrates' Court on Monday, when she is expected to be charged with murder or manslaughter.

Her mother, Robyn, who has travelled from Australia, attended the ten-minute hearing at which the Recorder of London, Sir Lawrence Verney, ordered that Miss Sullivan surrender her passport, undertake not to apply for any travel documents to leave the country and to stay at a secret address known to the court.

She also had to provide a £2,500 surety and promise not to contact Caroline's parents, Marcel and Muriel Jongen, of Cricklewood, northwest London. Police did not oppose the bail application. They refused to say who had supplied the surety.



Advert for agency that supplied accused nanny

Miss Sullivan's mother drove straight from court to the North London prison, where her daughter had been taken after her arrest six days earlier. Three hours later they were driven away without comment, covered by blankets, to her lawyers' offices in Central London.

A statement from Miss Sullivan's solicitors, Kaim Todner, said: "There is a large number of ongoing scientific and forensic investigations which have yet to be concluded. This is a tragedy for everyone involved.

"The matter is now in the hands of the police and, until all inquiries are completed, we are unable to make any further comment."

Caroline Jongen was pronounced dead at Great Ormond Street hospital at 5pm on Tuesday after a second set of brain stem tests confirmed that she was brain-dead. A post-mortem examination on Wednesday was inconclusive and further tests are to be carried out.

Last night it emerged that Miss Sullivan was supplied to the Jongens through Kidz Unlimited, a South African-run nanny agency in Notting Hill, West London. The agency, which advertises in free magazines, is not connected with a retail clothing company of the same name in Scotland.

An agency spokeswoman said yesterday: "Louise was registered with us. We are obviously extremely upset and shocked about the baby. We have been advised not to make any comment."

David Leadercramer, Kidz Unlimited's solicitor, said: "My clients acted as an introductory agency between Louise Sullivan and her employers and that was the extent of their involvement. Her references were checked out and proved satisfactory."

PIERS MACDONALD



Louise Sullivan leaving her solicitors yesterday. She has surrendered her passport

Police begin inquiry into 'racist' arrests

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

SOUTH Wales police began an investigation into alleged racism yesterday after two black teenagers claimed they were wrongly arrested when they sought help after being attacked by skinheads.

Marcus Walters, 18, and Francisco Borg, 17, are suing the force and say that closed circuit security television film supports their story.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Commission for Racial Equality in Cardiff, which helped the two to campaign against prosecution, said that they were attacked while on an errand. The youths, who live in the Tiger Bay area, had driven to to another part of the city to a shop run by Mr Walters's mother.

They were sitting in their car with Mr Walters's six-year-old sister when they were attacked by a white gang. The black youths got out to defend themselves and the girl ran away. When the pair flagged down a police car and asked for help they were arrested with several of the white youths. A CS spray was used on Borg, who needed hospital treatment. At Cardiff Crown Court this week he was bound over for a year. The case against Mr Walters was dropped. The closed circuit television film was not used in court because of poor quality.

Yesterday the Crown Prosecution Service said three white men have pleaded guilty to charges relating to the attack and are awaiting sentence.

The black youths say that the police told them that, as they lived in Tiger Bay they must have a criminal record, and if they did not have one it would only be a matter of time. Mr Walters has just begun a university course.

Police are understood to have claimed that the officers in the police car told the youths to get in for their protection. Yesterday Tony Burden, the South Wales Chief Constable, said that the claims of racism would be thoroughly investigated under the supervision of the Police Complaints Authority.

April forecast to break rain record

By A Correspondent

DOWNPOURS that flooded large areas and caused millions of pounds in damage are likely to make this month the wettest April of the century.

Forecasters say rain expected over the next few days should ensure that the month is remembered for April deluges rather than showers, surpassing the previous record set in April 1920, of 4.5in of rainfall.

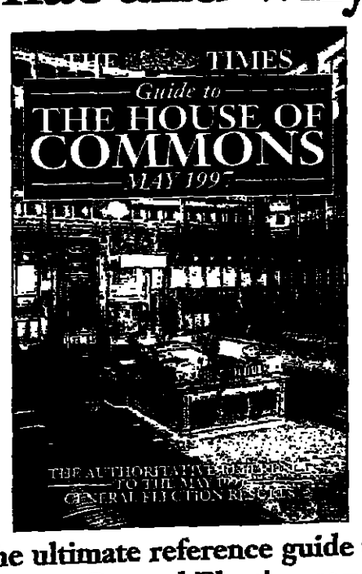
The extreme weather conditions in England and Wales, which less than a fortnight ago saw huge areas under water and included spring blizzards, could yet make it the wettest April on record. According to Met Office figures, there have been 4.4in of rain across England and Wales this month. The 1920 figure is likely to fall by the weekend, when more showers are expected.

The wettest recorded April was in 1782, with 5.4in of rain. This could be surpassed with a moderate amount of rainfall in the next week.

Sutton and East Surrey Water announced the lifting of a sprinkler ban yesterday, after an inspection showed water levels had returned to average after two years.

Forecast, page 26

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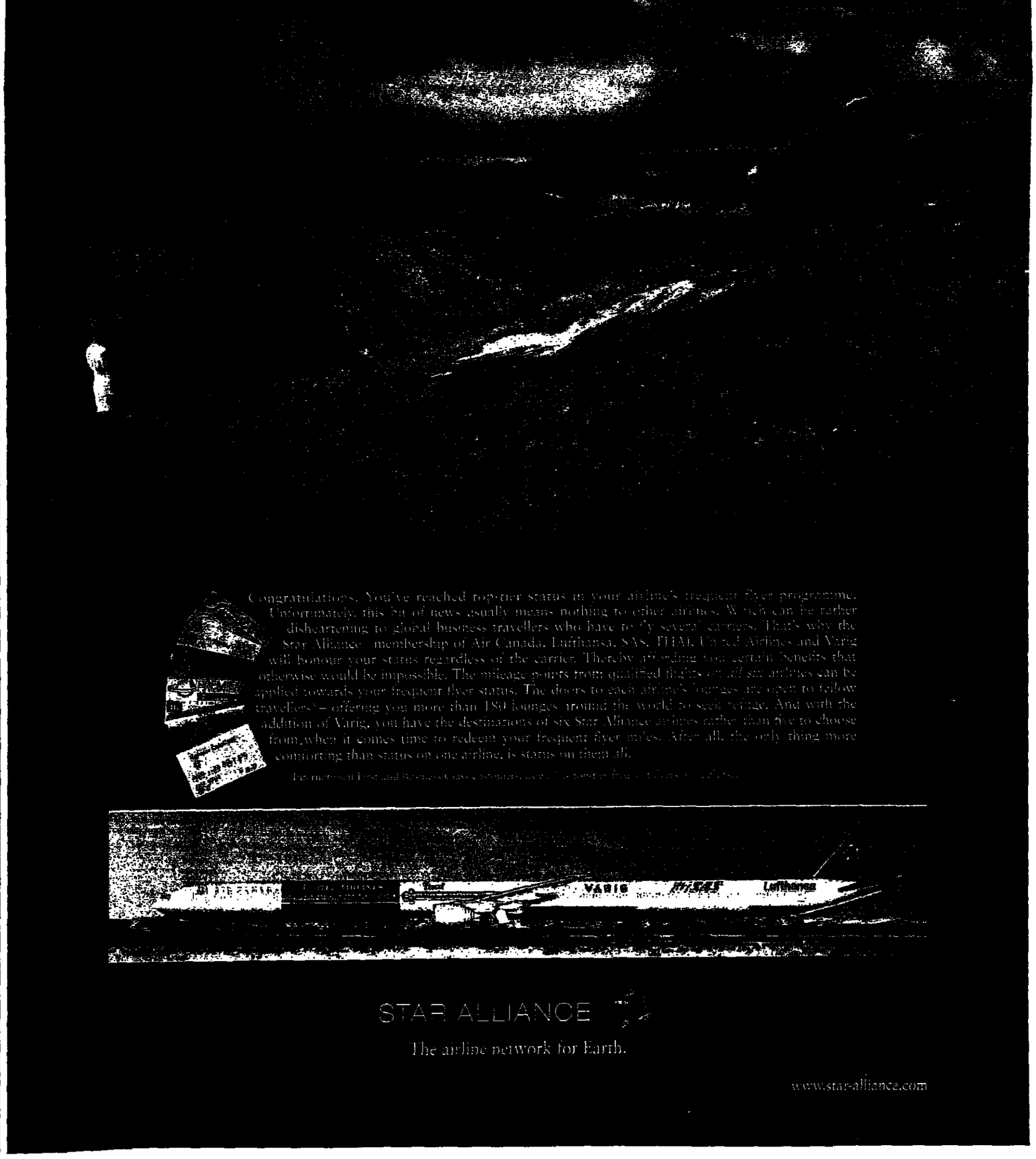
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Walkout leaves Ulster parades body in turmoil

Martin Fletcher on dispute over Blair's intervention

GOVERNMENT plans for avoiding conflict during Northern Ireland's summer marching season were in tatters last night after two of seven members of the independent Parades Commission resigned in a dispute over an intervention by Tony Blair.

Opponents of Good Friday's peace agreement accused the Prime Minister of "gagging" the commission so it did not enrage Unionists before the May 22 referendum by proposing that July's highly contentious Drumcree church parade be rerouted.

Unionist and nationalists said the commission had destroyed its own credibility by cancelling — at Mr Blair's behest — yesterday's publication of its preliminary rulings on whether Drumcree and other flashpoint marches should proceed.

Glen Barr, a former loyalist leader, announced his resignation at 1pm. He claimed he was stepping down because of "relentless media pressure", not because he opposed the commission's findings. Hours later Tommy Cheevers, a member of the Protestant Apprentice Boys, followed suit.

Last night there were calls for the resignation of Alistair Graham, the commission's chairman, and the disbandment of the commission. The Orange Order called its conduct farcical.

The commission was given the power to rule on contentious marches using much wider criteria than public order considerations used by the police. Yesterday it was supposed to publish its long-awaited blueprint for a dozen such marches, but on Tuesday evening David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist Party leader, heard rumours that it would propose rerouting the Orange Order's Drumcree parade along Portadown's nationalist Garvaghy Road.

On Wednesday morning Mr Trimble told Mr Graham that it would be "lunatic" to make a recommendation that would "plunge this Province back into conflict". He denied reports that he spoke directly to Downing Street, but later on Wednesday Mr Blair sent Mr Graham a letter referring to the impending referendum and urging him to delay publication at this "difficult and sensitive time".

Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party said Mr Blair had gagged the commission in "yet another futile attempt to prop up the 'Yes' camp". Martin Smyth, a UUP MP opposed to the agreement, said the Prime Minister's intervention showed "a willingness to do anything to get a 'Yes' vote". Sinn Fein and a spokesman for nationalist residents' groups accused the Government of capitulating to Unionist pressure.

The commission had hoped to restore confidence by publishing explanations for its preliminary rulings and inviting discussion, but will now issue only final decisions days before each march, reducing the chance of compromises.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, is also expected to have great difficulty finding replacements for Mr Barr and Mr Cheevers. Adam Ingram, Northern Ireland's security minister, said the commission had accepted a "request, not an instruction" from Mr Blair and denied it had been compromised.

Matthew Parris, page 22
Raymond Snoddy, page 39



David Trimble, left, put pressure on Alastair Graham



Armed police outside the flat in Balcombe Street, Central London, in 1975

Straw agrees to transfer of five IRA murderers

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

FOUR IRA terrorists convicted after the Balcombe Street siege are to be flown to the Irish Republic in the next few days to serve the final years of their life sentences.

Paul Magee, a fifth IRA terrorist who was convicted in 1993 of killing a special constable, is also to be returned to a jail in Ireland so he can be nearer his friends and family for his last years in prison.

Although the Balcombe Street Four were told three months ago by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, that they would die in jail because of the enormity of their crimes, they are likely to be freed on licence within two years. Magee had also been told that he would die in jail.

Under the Northern Ireland political settlement, prisoners in Ulster whose organisations remain on ceasefire will be released by 2000. A spokesman for the Justice Department in Dublin said the issue of the men's release was too "sensitive" to discuss, but political sources could not conceive that the Republic would detain them longer than IRA inmates in the North.

The decision to transfer them to Ireland was criticised by the widow of the dead constable and by Unionist politicians opposed to the political settlement, who accused the Government of buying off terrorists.

Fiona Goodman, widow of Glenn Goodman, said: "I am very angry. Glenn is nothing to them."

Mr Straw sanctioned the transfer of the five IRA men to the Republic under a Council of Europe agreement. Since 1992, 44 republican terrorist prisoners have been transferred to either the Republic or Northern Ireland and, after the latest transfers have taken place, eight will remain in jail in England.

A Prison Service spokesman said he had no comment on any suggestion that the announcement had been made to assist in winning support in the two referendums in Ireland next month on the Northern Ireland political settlement. But Unionist opponents of the political settlement had little doubt the move was intended to aid the "yes" campaigns. Fianna Fail, the main Irish Government party, welcomed the transfers.

Martin O'Connell, 46, from Co Clare; Eddie Butler, 48, from Co Limerick; Harry Duggan, 45, from Co Clare; and Hugh Doherty, 47, from Co Donegal, have served 21 years of life sentences imposed for a series of terrorist murders and gun attacks in London. They were arrested after a six-day siege at a flat in Balcombe Street, Marylebone, Central London, surrendering when they heard on the radio that the SAS was to be sent in.



Shot: IRA victim Glenn Goodman

Forest refuge to be created for casualties of Troubles

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A PAIN counselling clinic and a memorial forest are to be created in Northern Ireland to help victims of violence, Mo Mowlam announced yesterday.

Details will be in a report by Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, the former head of Ulster's Civil Service, who was appointed Northern Ireland victims commissioner by Mo Mowlam in November. The memorial forest for meditation will form a centrepiece of the Bloomfield plan, which the Northern Ireland Secretary will publish next month.

Sir Kenneth has decided against a conventional memorial which would list the names of the 3,000 people who have died since the Troubles flared up in 1969. Many people who had lost relatives feared that such a monument could be regarded as a memorial to murder.

He has received more than 200 letters and held more than 50 meetings with people who have been directly affected by violence. A respite centre has emerged as the most widely favoured option.

The centre, or "pain clinic", would be set in the memorial forest. One plan is for the building, with stained glass windows, to be decorated with art and plaques containing poetry about the Troubles by writers such as Seamus Heaney. People would be able to place accounts of their experiences in an archive.

The scheme was influenced by Sir Kenneth's visit to Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, which moved Tony Blair on his Middle East tour. The idea for a pain clinic came from the wives of members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

In August 1988, Sir Kenneth, a BBC governor, and his wife, Elizabeth, survived an IRA bomb that destroyed their home near Belfast.

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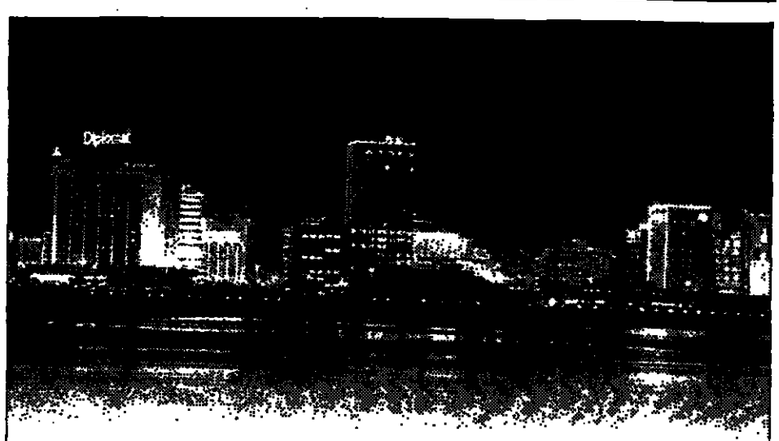
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Friends launch fund for sacked organist's appeal

Ruth Gledhill reports on Westminster Abbey dispute

SUPPORTERS of the sacked Westminster Abbey organist Martin Neary, including the composer John Tavener, have launched a fund to finance his appeal to the Queen.

The Right Rev John Taylor, former Bishop of Winchester, and the Very Rev Alexander Wedderspoon, Dean of Guildford, are among those calling for Dr Neary to be reinstated.

Mr Tavener, the composer of *Song for Athene*, which brought to a close the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, is among seven signatories to a letter in *The Times* today, appealing for funds towards the legal costs of Dr Neary and his wife, Penny.

The appeal came as Dr Neary formally submitted his appeal to the Queen at Buckingham Palace. The appeal, in the form of a letter, is expected to be passed on to the Lord Chancellor.

He can convene a special court to hear both sides, or make a decision based on documents submitted by both sides, but the process is likely to take some months in either case. The last time an appeal was made to the Sovereign in connection with the abbey was in 1949, but that was on a constitutional, rather than an employment, matter.

Dr Neary, who has engaged Cherie Booth, QC, the Prime Minister's wife, as his counsel, is understood to have incurred legal costs in fighting the allegations made against him by the dean and chapter of the abbey.

Dr Neary, who was also Master of the Choristers, and Mrs Neary, the concerts secretary, were dismissed by the dean and chapter on Wednesday after being accused of gross misconduct. The dean, Dr Wesley Carr, said the Nearys had taken advantage of their position "to further their own financial gain".

The Nearys have denied the charges against them. The dismissal and the way it has been managed have angered many in the Church of England and in Parliament.



Tavener: one of seven signatories to letter

Last night Robert Key, the Conservative MP for Salisbury and the Opposition defence spokesman, raised the issue in the House of Commons, appealing to Ann Taylor, the Leader of the House, to bring forward a "prime-time" debate on cathedrals.

Mr Key, the son of a clergyman and a steward of Salisbury Cathedral, said: "This is a tragedy for the dignity of Britain's grandest church." He also urged ministers to consider whether Westminster Abbey should continue to be a Royal Peculier, or be subject to the same rules as other cathedrals: "Many of us who have cathedrals in our constituencies are concerned about this."

John Gummer, the former Cabinet minister and Tory MP, who is another signatory of the letter to *The Times*, said: "Leaving the rights and wrongs out of it, my primary concern is that this has been handled in a most unchristian way. Any secular business would have handled it better than this. Christians ought to behave better towards one another than non-Christians."

Leading article and Letters, page 23



DOLLY, the cloned sheep, with its first lamb, born on Easter Monday. Scientists announced that the female lamb, called Bonnie, was delivered at the Roslin Institute, near Edinburgh, where its mother had been the first animal to be cloned from a single adult cell.

Graham Bulfield, the institute's director, said: "Despite Dolly's unusual origins, the birth confirms that she can breed normally."

When the institute decided last year to mate the overweight 21-month-old sheep, it was taken to a hillside paddock away from the sightseers who had been feeding it snacks. After losing about 11lb, it was allowed to mate naturally with a Welsh mountain ram from the same Finn Dorset breed.

Dolly was created in July 1996 from a cell taken from a six-year-old ewe. The pregnancy was announced last year and scientists have waited anxiously to see if a cloned sheep could produce a healthy lamb. Harry Griffin, assistant director at Roslin, said that Dolly and Bonnie would live out a "celebrity lifestyle", being introduced to occasional scientific visitors.

Healthy lamb for Dolly

Addict is jailed for murdering lover's daughter

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A MAN who imprisoned his lover's seven-year-old daughter in her bedroom and tortured her to death over four days was jailed for life yesterday.

Paul Gaye, 31, a registered heroin addict, changed his plea to guilty after first denying that had he murdered Suzanne Rarity at her home in Moss Side, Manchester. The child was found battered to death last June on a soiled mattress in her bedroom, where she had been kept prisoner and assaulted with a fork, lavatory brush and a curtain rail.

Mr Justice Douglas Brown told Gaye at Manchester Crown Court yesterday that he should serve at least 20 years of his sentence before he could be considered for release. He said: "I have never encountered such a systematic and violent infliction of injuries on such a young and defenceless girl. I regard you as not only evil but also dangerous.

"In the last week of Suzanne's life, you kept her prisoner and treated her with utmost violence. You tortured, beat her, punched her and kicked her, inflicting over 100 separate injuries. As a result of your inhuman cruelty, she received heavy blows which caused internal bleeding from which she died."

Gaye changed his plea on the second day of the trial after the child's mother, Angela, gave evidence that Gaye came to dominate the household after he moved in last April. He took the decisions on how to bring up Suzanne.

About a week before the child died, Gaye accused her of breaking the television remote control unit and beat with a curtain rail. Several days later he imprisoned her in her bedroom when he accused her of lying about washing her hands before a shopping trip. Over four days, he kept Suzanne and her mother apart, locking them in the house and keeping the only set of keys by his side. He took meals and drinks to Suzanne himself, and escorted the child to the bathroom.



Gaye tortured Suzanne Rarity over four days



Mrs Rarity told the court that she was scared of Gaye, who had warned her not to disobey him. At one point she had shouted through the bedroom door and Suzanne had replied: "Yes, Mum, I'm fine."

On the day before Suzanne died, she heard Gaye call the child a "dirty bitch" as he pushed her into the bathroom because she had soiled herself. He left Mrs Rarity to discover her daughter's body, leaving a rambling handwritten "confession" on the mantlepiece before fleeing.

He originally tried to blame Mrs Rarity for joining in the beatings, but this version was dismissed by the judge. He said that Suzanne was being brought up well and had been clean, well-dressed and happy until Gaye arrived. He said: "I regard it unlikely in the highest degree that the child's mother joined in."

Bluebell bulb thieves fined

THREE unemployed men were fined yesterday for plundering bluebell bulbs from an historic wood.

English Nature said the prosecution was a benchmark in the fight against "ecological vandalism". It is thought to be the first time anyone has been successfully prosecuted for taking bluebell bulbs, which are protected by law. Magistrates in Fakenham, Norfolk, were told that the men were seen by an off-duty detective at Keeper's Wood, near Thursford, one evening last August. Next day plainclothes officers kept watch on the wood and saw Leonard Read, 61, Maurice Crawley, 35, and Mark Lyons, 25, at work.

In Read's van they found 7,000 bluebell bulbs plus forks, nets and plastic trays. Tests showed that earth on the bulbs had come from the private wood.

Crawley was fined £500 and ordered to pay £200 costs. Read was fined £500 with £200 costs, and Lyons £200 with £45 costs. Magistrates also ordered the forfeiture of the bags and tools used and of the bulbs taken. *(PA News)*

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Bug-buster jacket designed to ease pain for tourists

By Nick Nuttall

AN INSECT-PROOF coat has been developed to keep the dreaded Highland midge at bay.

Libby Weir-Breen, a businesswoman, has developed a jacket which, it is claimed, keeps the pests from walkers, campers and tourists.

Mrs Weir-Breen, from Comrie, Perthshire, claims that not one midge bite has been reported in trials of the khaki cagoule-style jacket, or by the 1,000 people who have already bought it.

Yesterday she said: "It is the ultimate insect repellant. Midges just can't get through the mesh. The holes are too small." The jacket, which weighs a few ounces and can be packed into a rucksack, also comes with a hood and a mesh face mask, plus extra-long sleeves. It is elasticated at the bottom, with drawcords to keep the midges out.

The midge in question is *Culicoides impunctatus*. Scotland has 33 of the world's 130 species, and although the one which inhabits the north-west is smaller than the mosquito, it hunts in packs.

Mrs Weir-Breen, who also runs a special interest tour company, came up with the idea while in Newfoundland, Canada, where she was "eaten alive by the local equivalent of the midge".

Friends suggested that she wear a local garment for protection. She brought the jacket home and sank her savings into redesigning it and making it midge-proof. The £49.95 Bugwear jacket, made by North Cape, is available from her firm, Bugwear Ltd, by mail order, and she has already sold 1,000 through word of mouth.

"Gamekeepers in the Highlands have told me the jacket is wonderful. It is popular because it works and is good value. I like to think of it as the buster of the bug world. I have not had a single report of a bite."

CRAWFORD BROWN



Libby Weir-Breen in the jacket she claims keeps Highland midges at bay

Antibiotics are bad for health, scientists warn

Ian Murray on the links between disease and drugs

A CAMPAIGN to teach the public that antibiotics are damaging the nation's health is to be launched by the Department of Health, backed by the British Medical Association.

At the same time the Government is expected to start pressing the European Union to introduce controls on the use of antibiotics as growth promotors in animals.

The urgent need for the campaign emerged from a report this week by the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee. This warned that, unless prompt action was taken, bacteria could become resistant to drugs and diseases such as tuberculosis and meningitis could become untreatable.

Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, said the Public Health Laboratory had been studying the spread of infections that were resistant to antibiotics and would shortly publish a report.

"I think it will be a series of very strong recommendations to GPs and hospital doctors about the proper use of antibiotics," he said. People had to understand that they should not expect antibiotic treatment every time they had a cough, especially as these drugs were not effective against the viruses that caused colds and flu.

He said there was now "a very clear pathway" between the use of antibiotics given to animals to improve their growth rate and the increase in human drug resistance.

Judy Gilley, joint deputy chairman of the British Medical Association's GPs' committee, said that antibiotic resistance already threatened doctors' ability to treat serious illness. Family doctors had to be sure that they only prescribed antibiotics where appropriate.

"We have to put a major effort into educating the public not to demand antibiotics, and we must support family doctors in a concerted effort both to resist the pressure to prescribe inappropriately and to explain to patients why antibiotics should be used so cautiously," she said.

Ian Gould, consultant microbiologist at Aberdeen Royal Hospital, said the threat posed by the use of antibiotics in farming had only become apparent in the past three years. "The practice of using antibiotics to promote growth in farm animals should be curtailed," he said. "It was stopped in Sweden several years ago, but there are vast commercial pressures involved. I've heard that the European Commission put pressure on Sweden to reverse the situation there."

Ben Gill, president of the National Farmers' Union, said tests showed that 99.9 per cent of meat contained no trace of drugs fed to animals, and insisted that there was no evidence to link the use of antibiotics on farms with human resistance to drugs.

The National Farmers' Union has already set up a working party to investigate the issue. It claims that drugs are a vital tool for farmers to safeguard the health and well-being of their animals.

Antibiotics are used to treat and prevent illness in livestock, and are also fed to some animals including beef cattle, broiler chickens and pigs to make them bigger. Growth promoting hormones have been banned, but using antibiotics can enhance animals' growth by 5 per cent. In broiler flocks, antibiotics help chickens extract maximum nutrients from food, enabling farmers to reduce the amount of feed.



Gill: said 99.9 per cent of meat was drug-free

Leading article, page 23

Malaria bites back after a generation

By Ian Murray

MALARIA appears to have returned to Europe, nearly 30 years after being officially declared eradicated.

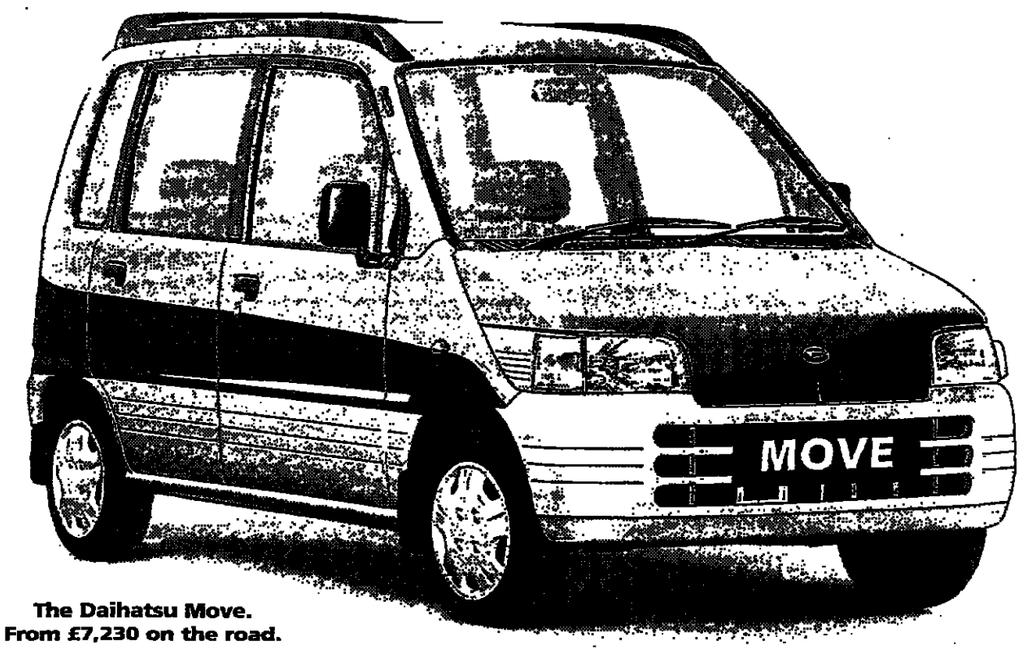
A woman of 62, living on the coastal plain of Tuscany, was admitted to hospital with a fever. Tests showed she had contracted the tropical disease, which is transmitted by mosquitoes, and doctors now believe the source was an Indian girl living near by who had travelled to the Punjab.

A team of investigators from the parasite department of the Instituto Superiore di Sanita in Rome say in an article in *The Lancet* today that the most likely probability was that an Italian mosquito had bitten the infected girl and transmitted malaria to the woman.

"They may represent the first cases of 'introduced malaria' in Europe for 20 years," the researchers say. An alternative explanation is "luggage malaria" (introduction of an infected mosquito from an endemic area).

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Nurses choose comfort over tradition


ROY KILCULLEN

All change: younger nurses say they want to wear trousers

RCN conference has decided that the old starched aprons and long sleeves are outdated and unsafe, reports Ian Murray

TRADITIONAL nurses' uniforms were consigned to history yesterday when the Royal College of Nursing's annual congress voted overwhelmingly to demand short-sleeved tops and comfortable trousers for all.

Individual hospitals will be able to choose colours and badges so that they are distinctive, but the nurses will insist that they are supplied with comfortable and safe clothes in future.

In recent years hospitals have increasingly been switching to informal, more practical outfits for staff, but the college has decided that, for health and safety reasons alone, the old-style starched aprons and neat caps must go.

Delegates at the congress in Bournemouth were told that the traditional uniform restricted hip movement by as much as 26 per cent, which meant that nurses were likely to adopt hazardous postures when handling patients, increasing the risk of back injury.

Long sleeves were another hazard. "When you are handling a patient a long sleeve can be soiled by infections and the uniform becomes unhygenic and difficult to clean," said Runyard Lee, from the Association of Nursing Students, who proposed the motion.

"When I started training I was issued with a uniform with flarey trousers and a restrictive white coat with long sleeves. It was totally impractical."

Nursing uniforms were first introduced in the 1830s as a way of distinguishing staff from visitors, but it was not until Florence Nightingale opened her training school at St Thomas's Hospital in London in 1860 that it became important to design uniforms that made it easy to identify different grades.



Way they were: the traditional uniform is said to restrict nurses and could lead to injury

The students, known as probationers, had to wear something that distinguished them from the trained nurses and the idea spread to other hospitals as they opened their own training schools.

Hospitals chose different colours and patterns, and nurses, who tended to come from more well-to-do families, were usually provided with a bolt of cloth and a drawing of their hospital's style so that they could have their uniforms made by their dressmakers.

"They were stiffly starched and, as it was an age when women were wearing corsets, they had to stand very straight. It was very impressive," said Jonathan Evans, archivist at the Royal London Hospital.

Rules were laid down on what different grades should wear. Hospitals developed their own distinctive cap styles for grades. At the Royal London the sisters wore starched streamers which hung to their waists, a style which endured to the 1940s. The usual hairstyles done up in a bun were fitted under a Sister Dora cap, held in place with a drawstring. Detachable starched collars and cuffs had to be bought separately.

Skirts became looser and shorter in the First World War and, afterwards, new caps which had a flap hanging down behind were introduced to mask the fact that the women had their hair cut short, something the traditionalists of the day tended to deplore.

Rationing in the Second World War shortened skirts further and more emphasis was placed on uniform shoes, because they were more visible. A national uniform was tried at the start of the National Health Service 50 years ago, but hospitals still liked to maintain some traditions. Sisters, usually dressed in dark blue, still wore long sleeves, collars and cuffs, although students were issued with short-sleeved dresses.

In the 1970s, blue and white or brown and white checks were introduced, followed by American-style operating theatre "fatigues" in the 1980s. These are the preferred design for young nurses.

"This is something that tends to split the generations," Mr Evans said. "Middle-aged nurses who used to wear the old-style uniforms say it was much easier to take charge when you walked into a ward if everyone who looked at you knew straight away that you were a nurse. Nowadays it is often hard to tell."

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Robot stills the shaky hand in keyhole surgery

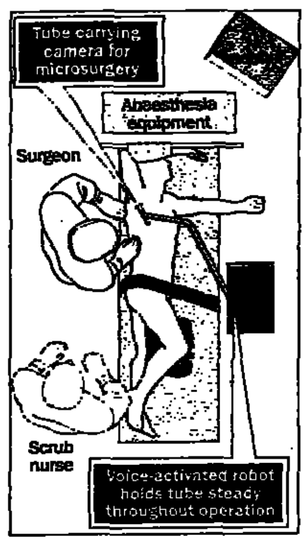
By Ian Murray, Medical Correspondent

A ROBOT trained to assist in keyhole surgery has proved to be better at the job than human beings.

The voice-controlled robot has an arm that holds instruments for the surgeon and has been taught 23 commands that enable it to be moved with precision. The robotic arm does not move except when asked to and holds instruments steady indefinitely, eliminating the risk of injury caused by a trembling hand.

The robot responds only to Japanese at present. Chest surgeons at Kamaishi Municipal Hospital, on Japan's northeast coast, have used it to remove tumours and parts of the lung from 17 patients.

The robot was used to hold a thoracoscope, a tiny camera inserted into the body so that the keyhole surgeon can see what he or she is doing on a screen. The thoracoscope is fed through a tube inserted into the chest and has to be held firmly in position.



The 23 voice-activated commands enable the surgeon to move the camera in any direction while continuing with the operation. This puts the surgeon in total control of the procedure and means he does not need to rely on the skill of a surgical assistant to find the correct position for the camera to view inside the body.

It also means that, once the instrument is in position, it will not be moved. Human beings may lose concentration after a while, with the result that the instrument shakes, making the surgeon's work more difficult and increasing the risk of injury to the patient.

In the trials, on patients aged between 14 and 80, the surgeons found that, during operations in which the instrument was held by a human assistant, it had to be removed for cleaning three times more frequently. This meant that there was a threefold risk of extra damage to the tissue of the lung.

"All procedures were successfully completed with only one surgeon and did not require human assistance," Shinchiro Okada, the surgeon in charge of the trials, writes in *The Lancet* today.

"No technical mishaps related to robot-assisted thoracoscopic manoeuvres occurred ... We have found that the use of a voice-controlled robotic arm as a substitute for a surgical assistant is feasible and may be cheaper."

Authority ran up £97,000 legal bill

By A Correspondent

THE chief executive of North and East Devon Health Authority will face questions from the auditor today about £97,000 of public money spent on legal fees contesting a claim for expenses.

Gillian Morgan meets the auditor, Frank Ingram, to answer questions about the authority's actions over Carol Rudd, a health visitor who was sacked for allegedly not visiting patients and for submitting false mileage claims, including a disputed £34 bill for petrol.

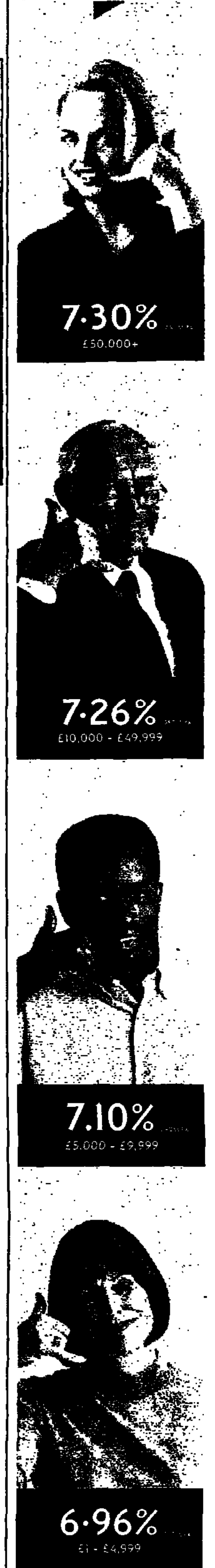
Dr Morgan will be asked why the authority hired the senior partner of a top law firm and ran up such large costs when it was facing a deficit of £25 million.

The Audit Commission was called in after Nick Harvey, the Liberal Democrat MP for Devon North, questioned the health authority's use of public funds to pay legal fees, and informed Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary.

Mrs Rudd was cleared by the UK Central Council for Nursing in 1993 of any allegation of fraud or dishonesty. During the case it was disclosed that the authority had conducted a campaign of covert surveillance, tailing her car, taking photographs and raiding her files and wastepaper bin. One minor technical count of misconduct for failure to remind a GP to visit a patient was upheld, but the panel said there should be no disciplinary action.

The authority refused to give Mrs Rudd her job back or pay outstanding expenses of £240, including the petrol bill of £34. Mrs Rudd took the case to the small claims court, where she was awarded £172.

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How to get cash at the blink of an eye

Helen Johnstone reports on the technology that could make pin numbers a thing of the past

A BUILDING society has endorsed what psychologists have been saying for years — that eye contact is the surest way of knowing if someone is telling the truth.

Technology that allows cash machines to dispense money at the blink of an eye could make the plastic cash card a thing of the past. The first machine of its type went on-line yesterday at the Nationwide Building Society's head office branch in Swindon.

The machine uses "iris recognition technology" to identify the user, eliminating the need for personal cash card "pin" numbers. When a customer inserts their card, a camera on top of the machine scans 250 features on their iris. If the iris matches the details on a databank the transaction will proceed.

Experts believe the chances of someone else duplicating a match are less than one in a billion. The technology is similar to that used in tanks to identify a target.

Customers in a six-month trial mainly welcomed the increased security. Experts say it is foolproof because each person's iris is unique and unchanging.

Jonathan Davies, a member of the Armed Forces, has never been a victim of theft from a cash machine, but has always been unsettled by the possibility. He said: "This technology is particularly good because no one else can use your card."

For Roger Cranfield, a computer operator, not having to remember a pin number is the main attraction. "My biggest problem is forgetting my pin number. I have occasionally gone to the cash machine and come away empty-handed because of it.

"It is a clever idea and definitely the way forward. Although I have never had a problem with my card being stolen, it's nice to know that if it did happen they would not be able to use it."

Valerie Garner, a collection agent, took a bit more persuading. "My husband is disabled and I was concerned that if I was unwell my daughter would not be able to get money from the cash machine for me. But I've been assured that pin numbers would be kept as a back-up."

Paul Feldman, the society's head of security, said that 40 customers were registered within hours of opening yesterday and all the feedback had been positive. "Technology like this makes it easier for customers to prove they are who they say they are."

The society will decide on its wider use after the trial. Early response suggests, however, that the eyes have it.

RICHARD WINTLE



Paul Feldman, Nationwide's head of security, with a computer image of his eye, ready for use on the iris recognition cash machine

Cataract man takes flight to beat queue

BY IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A PENSIONER has had his cataract removed privately for £35 by flying to India for the operation. His return trip, including the operation, took less than a week and enabled him to jump the average year-long queue for the operation.

Noel Martin, 70, from Chertsey, Surrey, had already been waiting eight months to have the operation on the National Health when he was involved in a car crash. That made him realise his sight was failing so fast that he was dangerous behind the wheel.

Mr Martin was told the cataract could be removed privately, but this would cost £3,000. So he decided to go back to India, which he had left in 1955, for treatment. Relatives there assured him that it was possible to get the operation done quickly and easily in a clinic.

He bought a £330 return ticket to Delhi and then headed 300 miles south to Ajmer, where his relatives live. The cataract was removed for £35 and an American-made lens costing £30 was fitted.

"The operation took 20 minutes and my sight is now perfect," he said yesterday. When he returned home he found a letter from the hospital, with an appointment for an operation there next month.

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Woman tells of policeman's rape threats

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A YOUNG woman told yesterday how a policeman accused of being a serial sex attacker threatened to rape her at least three times during their first date.

The woman, who works with the Inland Revenue, claimed that PC John Blott had kept her in his house for up to three hours, assaulting her, making lewd suggestions and demanding sex. She said that, since the alleged incident in November 1994, she had been frightened at the sight of a policeman or police cars.

The woman, now 26, told Leeds Crown Court that, at first, she had been flattered by PC Blott when she met him in the street after an evening out with two girlfriends in Middlesbrough.

PC Blott, 33, denies two rapes and four indecent assaults between 1993 and 1995 in the Teesside region. He claims that all the women consented to sex. He is suspended from the Cleveland force where he has served for ten years, after giving up a career as a professional goalkeeper through injury.

The tax worker, who has since married and moved to Peterborough, said he asked her name and where she lived and the next morning, he called her and asked her out for a meal.

The woman said: "I was flattered he had got back to me, there was no cause for concern at that stage. I would not normally go out with a man I had only met for five minutes, but my friends at work reassured me because he was a police officer."

The woman said that during the date she began to feel concerned because instead of going to a restaurant, PC Blott bought a pizza takeaway and then drove to his house. "I was uneasy, but I know policemen, I have been brought up to trust them."

She said that she was "very frightened" when he showed her pictures of him posing semi-naked with topless women. "It seemed very wrong, a very unusual thing to do on a first date," she said.

The woman said: "He started talking about sex. I was very uncomfortable. At some point he said: 'I am going to rape you tonight.' I said 'You are not.' He said he would rape me two or three times during the evening."

The woman claimed that PC Blott later pulled her onto the floor and assaulted her. She considered trying to leave but told the court that she was too frightened. He later took her home.

Another alleged victim told how she had kneed PC Blott in the groin after his third attempt to interfere with her on a date. The woman, who was 22 at the time of the alleged attack in August 1994, said: "He was in some pain. He took some time to recover."

Afterwards he agreed to drive the woman, from Middlesbrough, home. On the journey, she said she had felt sorry for him and apologised but she added: "I had told him to stop three times."

Cross-examined by Anne Rafferty, QC, for PC Blott, she denied she had become angry when he laughed at a tattoo of a devil on her stomach and had punched him in the chest, not the groin.

The trial continues.

Dead detective to rise again

BY A CORRESPONDENT

THE comedians Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer are lined up to take the lead roles in a revival of the comedy detective show *Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)*.

Reeves would play a ghost in the show — the Hopkirk of the title — which is about partners in a private detection agency, one of whom was murdered in a hit-and-run incident.

Charlie Higson, one of the stars of the comedy programme *The Fast Show*, has been signed up to write and produce the series, to be shown on BBC1.

If the comedy drama receives final approval, it should be seen next year, 30 years after the original series appeared. Caroline Chignall, agent for Reeves and Mortimer, who host the television series *Shooting Stars*, said: "It's in the very early stages at the moment. The scripts are still being written and they won't give the final go-ahead until they have seen them. But they are keen to do it and were very big fans of the original series."

The BBC has asked Working Title TV, a division of the film company that produced *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, to make six 50-minute shows.

In the original show, which was repeated on BBC2 in 1994, Hopkirk came back from the dead to help his partner, Jeff Randall, to bring his killers to justice.

هكذا من الأصل

Cataract man takes flight to beat queue

BY IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

PENSIONER has had hi
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Independent schools report rise in pupils

But demise of Assisted Places Scheme spells trouble in private sector, writes John O'Leary

INDEPENDENT schools reported a near-record rise in enrolments yesterday, but almost half of the increase came from the last entrants under the Assisted Places Scheme, spelling trouble ahead for many schools.

Growth was strongest among two and three-year-olds at nursery schools, offsetting a marginal decline in the early years of secondary education. An increase of almost 5 per cent in pre-school numbers was three times the average for the sector.

The 7,400 extra pupils of all ages this January represented the third successive increase, bringing the total to almost 480,000 in the 1,300 schools subscribing to the Independent Schools Information Service. Only twice since records began has the 1.6 per cent rise been bettered.

Although the number of boarders dropped again, by 2.4 per cent, much of the decline was caused by a "blip" in enrolments by foreign pupils ascribed to currency turmoil in the Far East and uncertainty in the main recruiting ground of Hong Kong.

David Woodhead, the national director of Isis, said the rise in enrolments in nurseries and preparatory schools bode well for the future of independent education. But he acknowledged that the phasing out of assisted places was a "cloud on the horizon".

The Conservative Government's extension of the scheme to preparatory schools increased the number of beneficiaries by 3,600. But the numbers will dwindle to nothing from the present 40,000 over the next seven years.

Patrick Tobin, the chairman of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, said schools had been planning for up to a decade for the loss of assisted places, and many were adjusting successfully. However, the rise in the number of parents paying full fees signalled a worrying change in the social mix within independent schools.

Mr Tobin said the scheme was worth £1 million to the two Edinburgh schools he heads, Stewart's Melville College and The Mary Erskine School. Only a £4.5 million bequest by a local widow had enabled the schools to maintain many of their subsidised places.

Thirty per cent of pupils received some help with fees, mainly from the schools themselves. David Crawford, chairman of the Society of Headmasters and Headmistresses of Independent Schools, said schools were finding it difficult to pay full fees for those on low incomes, but fundraising schemes were helping growing numbers of pupils.

Mr Woodhead said the overall rise in enrolments confirmed a return to financial health in the independent sector after the trough of the recession in the early 1990s. The census showed an 11 per cent increase in the number of "occasional" boarders — day pupils who spend some nights at school.

Fees rose by an average of 5.2 per cent, the same as last year. The above-inflation increase, which is expected to be repeated this autumn, was partly caused by spending on new buildings and facilities.

Mr Woodhead said the schools expected foreign recruitment to recover this year, partly from an expanding market in China, which has 60,000 independent schools. An exhibition in Beijing had attracted 30,000 visitors.

Education, page 44



DARREN FLETCHER

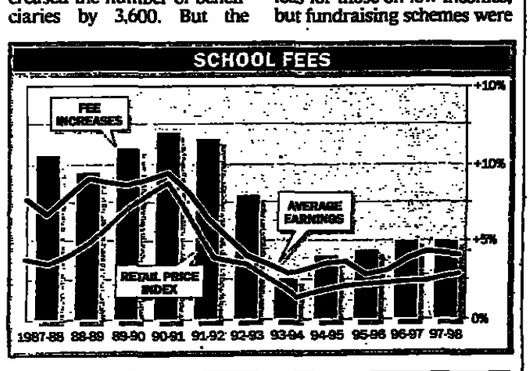
The Jigsaw nursery at Stoke Gifford, near Bristol. Children receive 50 hours' education and care a week at an average cost of about £130

Advocate of state nursery schools goes private

THE education expert who urged state nursery schools for all children has joined the private sector with a company that is planning a chain of "early years units" (David Charter writes).

Sir Christopher Ball, former Warden of Keble College, Oxford, and author of the influential *Start Right* report, wants to create "the Marks & Spencer of nursery provision". He has become deputy chairman of The Jigsaw Group, which plans to open 44 nurseries costing £30 million. It is one of a growing number of private companies that are seeking to repeat the success of similar firms in the United States. Others include Leapfrog, which hopes to open 60 nurseries in the next five years.

Sir Christopher was director of learning at The Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce when he wrote its *Start Right* report in 1994, which advocated state nursery education for all three and four-year-olds by 2000. Yesterday he denied that he had "sold out" by joining the private sector. "The State offers equality in early years, but such low quality that children may as well not be getting a pre-school education at all," he said.



Cash trebled for education zones

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to treble the amount of public money in each "education action zone", by which it hopes to raise school standards in deprived areas.

Each zone of about 20 schools will receive an extra £500,000 in addition to the £250,000 already announced and the £250,000 each zone is expected to raise from business. David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, denied the the extra money was needed because he had underestimated the amount needed to make the zones work.

Critics have said that schools in the original plan would see little more than £15,000 each, after central administration costs. The extra money will make it easier for schools in the zones to offer higher salaries to the advanced skills teachers the Government wants them to poach from successful schools.

Mr Blunkett told a Labour local election briefing that he had increased the number of zones starting in September from five to 12. "By January there will be 25," he said. "They will be developed in new public-private partnerships and will have more freedom with the national curriculum and greater flexibility in pay and conditions to attract the best teachers." The extra support had been made available by £10 million pledged to education in the Budget.

The action zones are the Government's "test bed" for innovation in education, intended to identify solutions that can be applied elsewhere. Sixty groups, led by mostly local education authorities, have bid to run the first zones. Successful bids will be announced in June and zones will be governed by forums including businesses and community groups.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, criticised the increased targeting of education cash on the zones. "The increased investment will benefit only those schools in the zones," he said. "It will leave untouched the many problems hindering the improvements desperately needed by schools across England and Wales."

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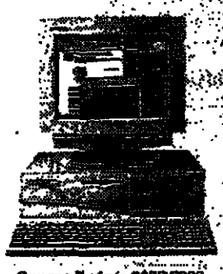
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New Blairite MP charged with electoral fraud

Jill Sherman on allegations over campaign expenses

FIONA JONES, a new Blairite MP, has been charged with electoral fraud after a four-month police investigation into her general election expenses.

The MP for Newark faces prosecution under the Representation of the People Act for filing an "inaccurate return" last year. She is alleged to have spent more than double *than the amount declared.*

Mrs Jones, 41, and her election agent, Des Whicher, have been summoned to appear before magistrates in Nottingham next month. The decision to press charges will be *highly embarrassing for* Tony Blair and risks tarnishing his first-year anniversary celebrations.

She is the second of the 1997 intake of Labour MPs to be charged with electoral fraud. *Mohammed Sarwar, Britain's* first Muslim MP, was suspended last year shortly after he was accused of bribery in his Glasgow Govan constituency. He was subsequently charged with electoral fraud, *attempting to pervert the* course of justice and breaking the law on election expenses.

Last night Labour officials said that there were no plans to take similar disciplinary *action against Mrs Jones.* They emphasised that the allegations were not "particularly serious" and if she was found guilty she would not necessarily be suspended.

The expenses of general *election candidates are limited* to ensure a measure of fairness. Mrs Jones declared £8,514, about £400 below the limit, but it is understood that police investigations have discovered evidence of spending *nearer £20,000.*

Both Mrs Jones, who has a majority of 3,016, and Mr Whicher denied that there was any intention to submit a false return. She said: "We won the Newark seat fairly and *squarely. The return, which is* a public document, was placed with the returning officer in good faith by the agent. In my view, it is an honest reflection of the costs of all campaign activities covered by the Representation of the People Act. There was never any attempt to break election law by either me or my agent. We will both vigorously defend our action."

Yesterday a spokesman for Nottinghamshire Police said: "We have received the authority today from the CPS [Crown Prosecution Service] that there is sufficient evidence, and it is in the public interest to prosecute Fiona Jones MP and Des Whicher for an offence contrary to one of the sections of the Representation of the People Act 1983."

Detectives were orginally called in to investigate electoral expenses in the Newark *constituency after a complaint* was made by Peter Harris, the Liberal Democrat candidate last year. He said that he was not happy with the figures put forward by the Labour Party for its campaign expenses.

The allegations relate to the use of Newark town council's telephones to carry out extensive canvassing for votes by Mrs Jones and the rental of a town centre office as the campaign headquarters. Detectives began a full investigation in December, visiting Newark town hall to question staff and examine papers.

Mrs Jones, a mother-of-two and a former Lincolnshire district councillor, became Newark's *first Labour MP for* 18 years after beating the sitting Tory, Richard Alexander, into second place last May. She later upset local party workers when she said in a memo that they had not *put in enough effort canvass*ing and raising funds during the election campaign.

After entering Parliament she held the record for going the longest period without making her maiden speech in *the Commons.*

TONY HARRIS



Fiona Jones denies the charge and says that she won her seat "fairly and squarely"

Labour women rally behind equality policy

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR women MPs urged the party yesterday to press ahead with its policy of equal representation in the Scottish and Welsh assemblies after signs that it may be ditched.

The party's four Welsh women MPs are worried that the so-called twinning policy adopted for elections to the Scottish parliament will not go ahead in Wales, where it is being strongly opposed by several constituencies.

*Under the system neigh*bouring constituencies, or those with similar profiles, are linked in pairs. If a man is selected to stand in one constituency, a woman must then be selected in its twin.

This week Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, told a meeting of Welsh MPs that the twinning policy was unlawful. It is understood that Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, who is expected to be the *first minister of the new* assembly, is also wary of the policy.

But yesterday Ann Clwyd, MP for Cynon Valley, and the three other Welsh women MPs said that the party had *taken legal advice and would* go ahead with the scheme. Ms Clwyd said: "Those campaigning for a national assembly *did so for fairer representation* for the people of Wales. To let down over half the population now by failing to go ahead with a system to ensure women are fairly represented would be a tragedy."

*Julie Morgan, MP for Car*diff North and one of the new intake, said: "It's not the Lord Chancellor's job to advise the Labour Party." Ms Morgan and Labour's two other new Welsh women MPs, Jackie Lawrence (Preseli Pembrokeshire) and Betty Williams (Conwy), were all selected under the women-only shortlist system, which was ruled illegal in the run up to last year's general election.

*Labour's Welsh constituen*cy parties are said to be evenly split on twinning. Opponents resent interference in their choice of candidate.

The Welsh executive is due to take a decision on the policy *on Monday. Yesterday Lab*our officials said that if the executive rejected the policy its decision could be overturned.

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY In the Commons: Road Traffic Reduction (National Targets) Bill, third reading; Public Interest Disclosure Bill, report; debate on Prime Minister's press office. The House of Lords is not sitting.

Transatlantic alternative to the euro is a right-wing illusion

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

NEWT GINGRICH has become a seductive siren for the Tory Right. His appeal for a "renewed and revitalised Atlanticism" has appealed to Tory sceptics, eager to find a plausible alternative to monetary union. *But they should* worry about being drawn onto the rocks by the alluring fantasies of Speaker Gingrich.

The Gingrich thesis is twofold. First, that Europe faces a series of crises that its political system might be incapable of resolving because it is establishing monetary union before there are *Europe-wide labour and housing* markets. Second, there is likely to be movement in Congress to offer Britain some associate status in the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta).

However, the two arguments are separate. Many pro-European Tories *like Kenneth Clarke sympa*thise with Mr Gingrich in wishing that the EU had "tackled labour market and structural economic reform more vigorously before embarking on EMU". However, such Tories, as well as most members of the Government, believe that if the new euro-zone succeeds, Britain's self-interest *will demand that we join soon.*

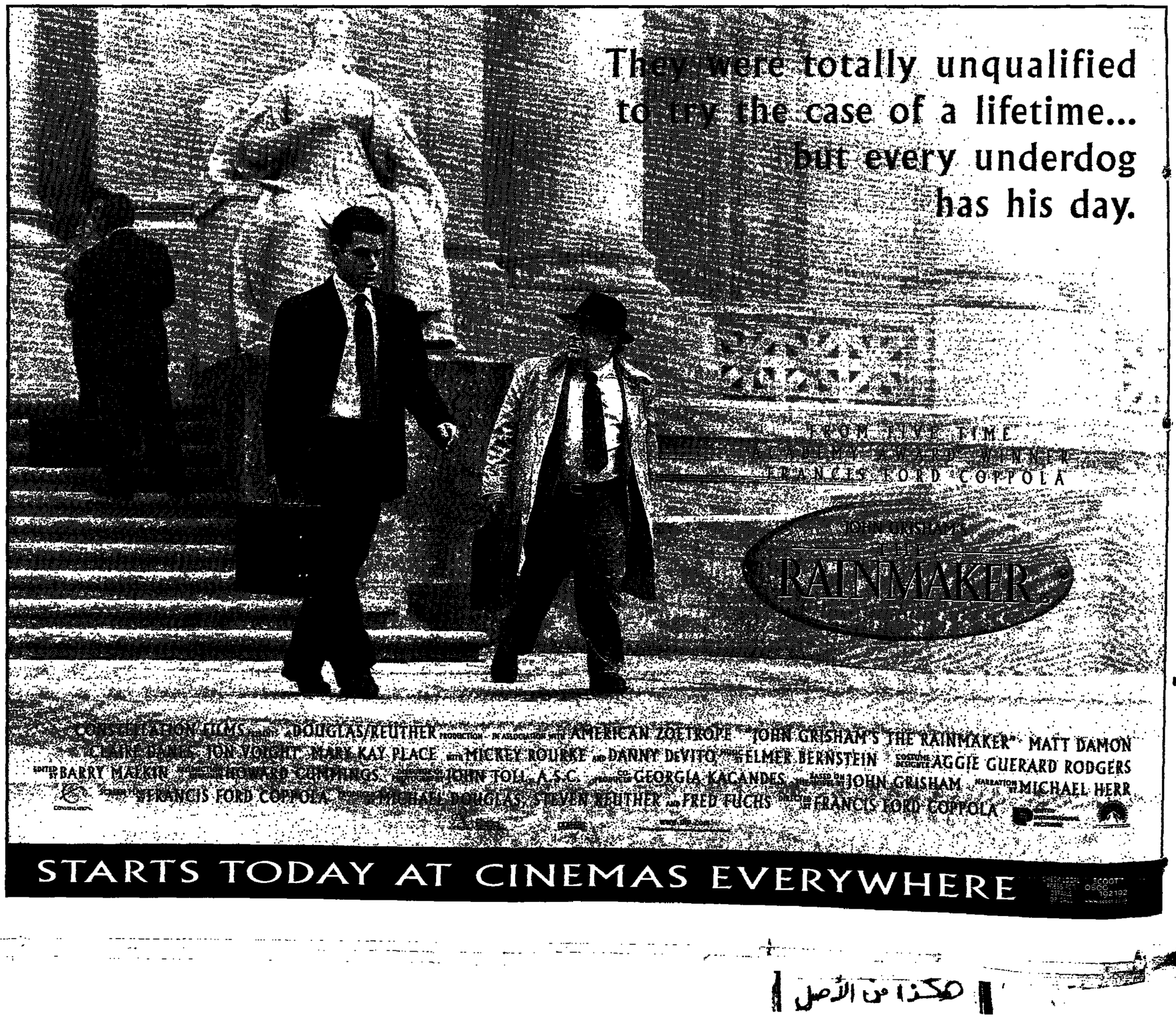
Even if you believe that Britain should stay out of any single currency for much longer, it is nonsense to argue that there is somehow a transatlantic alternative with the United States eagerly leaving open a door for Britain. As so often since he overreached himself two years ago, Mr Gingrich is speaking for himself in raising the prospect of serious moves, as opposed to gestures, in *Congress towards giving Britain* associate status. Any extension of Nafta is likely to start in Latin America, as President Clinton argued last weekend in Santiago. He anyway failed last autumn to gain sufficient support in Congress for the so-called fast-track authority needed to extend Nafta because of suspicions that the livelihood of American workers *would be threatened.* The belief of Preston Manning, Canada's Opposition leader, that Britain should be invited to join Nafta hardly matters given his current position.

No one seems to have paused to wonder what the implications of such an associate status would be, even if the American Congress were willing to grant it. Would trade barriers be especially lowered to favour Britain, as opposed to the rest of the EU? But such preferential access would be incompatible with Britain's membership of the EU. Implicit in the sceptic enthusiasm for Mr Gingrich *is precisely the hope that* Britain will, in turn, loosen its EU ties.

Michael Howard and John Redwood have associated themselves with the spirit of Mr Gingrich's remarks while being careful to put *forward a different, but parallel,* proposal for a North Atlantic Free Trade Area. Sir Leon Brittan, the Brussels Commissioner for international trade, has already urged a transatlantic free trade area, dealing with non-tariff barriers in areas such as transport. But this approach is strongly opposed by France and by those worried about a proliferation of regional trade deals, as opposed to multilateral agreements through the World Trade Organisation. Of course, the French objections reflect its protectionist and anti-Atlanticist instincts.

The real illusion is to pretend *that Britain can somehow have a* special trade deal with the United States — the "51st state" option — without affecting its membership of the EU. Mr Redwood and his allies are wrong to make the bald claim that Britain does not have to choose between America and Europe. *The question is not as* simple as that. Britain has, and should continue, close relations with the United States on security and intelligence matters. But on trade and economic issues, Britain's future lies in the EU — as an advocate of free and open trade and that is the view of all *serious* American policymakers.

PETER RIDDELL



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Downs lose fight to become National Park



Downs and out: the Countryside Commission is proposing that the rolling landscape of the South Downs can be best preserved by enhancing its existing status as an area of outstanding natural beauty

Campaigners say decision is undemocratic

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A CAMPAIGN to secure National Park status for the South Downs was rejected yesterday by the Countryside Commission.

The commission, the Government's main countryside adviser, proposed that the Downs, from Eastbourne in East Sussex to Winchester in Hampshire, could be best protected by enhancing their existing status as an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Green pressure groups protested that park status was the only way of protecting the landscape from development and tourism. The level of protection against development is much higher in National Parks, which are run by independent park authorities. Major housing developments, roads or recreational facilities can be built only if they are shown to be in the "overriding interest of the public".

Elizabeth Cooper, of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said: "We are very disappointed. We feel the Downs are a special case and that it is only by designating them as a National Park that funding can be secured and development kept in check." Chris Todd, of Friends of the Earth, accused the commission of giving the Government undemocratic advice. "The Countryside Commission is showing contempt for the huge number of people in the South East who want National Park status for the Downs," he said.

"Some 32 million people visit the Downs every year, more than visit any of the National Parks, but the area does not have the power to manage this influx properly."

The case for National Park status was championed earlier this week in a letter to *The Times* signed by Sir Chris Bonington, the mountaineer and president of the Council for National Parks, and by representatives of the Wildlife Trusts, the Ramblers' Association, the Youth Hostels Association, the Open Spaces Society, the South Downs Campaign and Friends of the Earth. Sir Chris said yesterday he was saddened and disappointed by a decision that went against public opinion and could have a detrimental effect on the area. "I think it's so eminently obvious that the South Downs did need and deserve National Park status," he said.

The final decision on the Downs' status rests with John Prescott, Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions. The Downs are one of 37 areas of outstanding national beauty in England and were designated by Act of Parliament in 1949 at the same time as the National Parks, of which there are now seven in England and three in Wales.

Although the Downs were one of 12 areas recommended in 1947 to become National Parks, they were left out largely because they did not fit the park model of the time, which was based on remote upland landscapes.

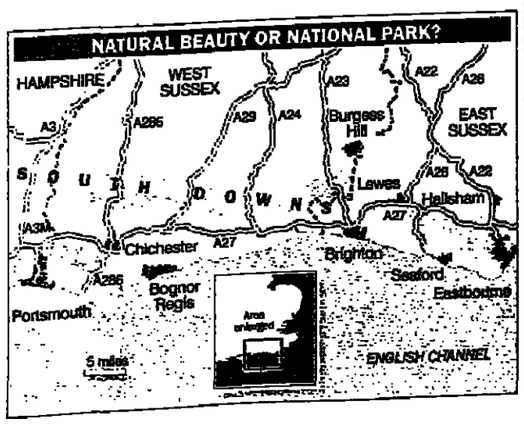
The commission said yesterday that it believed the Downs could be adequately protected by strengthening the powers of the conservation board set up experimentally in 1992 to manage the area. It proposed that the board should be given a statutory right of consultation on any development affecting the area, and that central Government should guarantee to meet 50 per cent of the board's core costs. Richard Simmonds, the commission's chairman, said its proposal was "a vital practical step towards finding solutions to the management of this important area". He added: "The commission received a wide range of views, and has been at pains to find the best solution, one that would be prompt and practical, and one that would create the most effective and workable organisation."

> "It is obvious the Downs need and deserve park status"

The commission recommended that local authorities should be given the option of setting up similar conservation boards in all other areas of outstanding natural beauty, which suffer at present from having no one directly responsible for their management.

A separate proposal to give the New Forest a status equivalent to that of National Parks through special legislation was welcomed.

The move would preserve the role of the Court of Verderers, which represents the interests of the 500 commoners — local people who hold ancient grazing rights and still turn out their sheep, cattle, pigs and ponies to graze in the woodlands.



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The lone voice known as a spy

BY TOM WALKER

MAJOR Hervé Gourmelon was a well-known face to journalists covering Balkan conflicts. He arrived in Bosnia with the United Nations Protection Force in 1993 and rapidly became the main point of contact for correspondents. Often a lone French voice in a largely anglophone press environment, he was especially coveted by French-speaking journalists.

As well as working in Bosnia, he also arranged public relations for the French forces in last year's Nato peacekeeping operation in Albania. He returned to Bosnia but last November, as Nato's Stabilisation Force (Sfor) moved into a new press centre in Sarajevo, he vanished.

Officially, Sfor said he had left for family reasons. But then stories began to circulate about problems in his private life in Sarajevo where, unusually for an Sfor officer, he had his own flat.

Bosnian police were said to have passed on a citizen's complaint to Sfor, and a gang of Bosnians were said to be hunting him. "They wanted to break his legs," one journalist said yesterday.

Shortly after, Major Gourmelon left. British diplomats, however, said the rumours had been concocted, and that he had been framed by the US military, who wanted him out of Bosnia.

A French reporter said yesterday: "Everyone knew he was a spy."

Karadzic raid 'ruined' by French officer

Military links between the US and Paris are strained, writes Ben Macintyre

A TOP-SECRET plan to capture Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb leader, was aborted last summer after a French officer was found to have held clandestine meetings with the alleged war criminal, according to a US news report.

The French Ministry of Defence yesterday conceded that an officer did have "apparently questionable" contacts with Dr Karadzic, but denied they had compromised any attempt to snatch him.

The Washington Post, citing American and diplomatic sources, reported that Major Hervé Gourmelon of the French Army may have passed on military secrets to Dr Karadzic, who is wanted for trial at the Bosnian war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

A senior US official was quoted as saying: "We know, definitely, that he passed information about Nato operations related to efforts to eventually get Karadzic."

Major Gourmelon, who was France's senior liaison officer with the Serbs in the French military sector and a Nato press spokesman, was reassigned to another post in France late last year. He was moved at short notice, officially for "family reasons", and then went on leave.

"A French officer had various contacts [in Bosnia], as his orders permitted. As soon as the course of these relations might have appeared questionable, this officer was immediately reassigned to a new posting in France. The actions of this officer did not in any way compromise any arrest of Radovan Karadzic," the French Defence Ministry said in a statement. It did not clarify the extent to which the officer's contact with the Bosnian Serb leader had been approved or monitored by French military officials.

France has angrily rejected earlier accusations of foot-dragging over the arrest of indicted war criminals in the Bosnian region controlled by its troops, and the Defence Ministry yesterday "categorically" rejected "allegations calling into question the performance of French soldiers in Bosnia".

The French are in command of Nato troops who are patrolling Pale — the Bosnian Serb stronghold and Dr Karadzic's former fiefdom.

"The French position on war criminals in Bosnia is unambiguous: anyone accused of war crimes must be judged by the international tribunal," the ministry said.

The Washington Post reported that Major Guermelon met Dr Karadzic on several occasions last year, although Nato bans official contact with indicted war criminals. Any attempt to capture Dr Karadzic would have required hundreds of Nato troops and the element of surprise, and the decision to suspend the raid was reportedly taken by America's General Wesley Clark, Nato Supreme Allied Commander Europe, who feared that, if warned, Dr Karadzic might mount a counter-offensive with his security forces.

When General Clark was informed about the meetings by US intelligence, he demanded an explanation from the French military authorities, but received contradictory answers.

According to the *Post*, the French authorities initially said that Major Gourmelon had acted on his own initiative without authorisation, and would be court-martialled. The French military later acknowledged that the officer had filed reports detailing his meetings with Dr Karadzic, and Major Gourmelon was swiftly transferred to Paris without being punished.

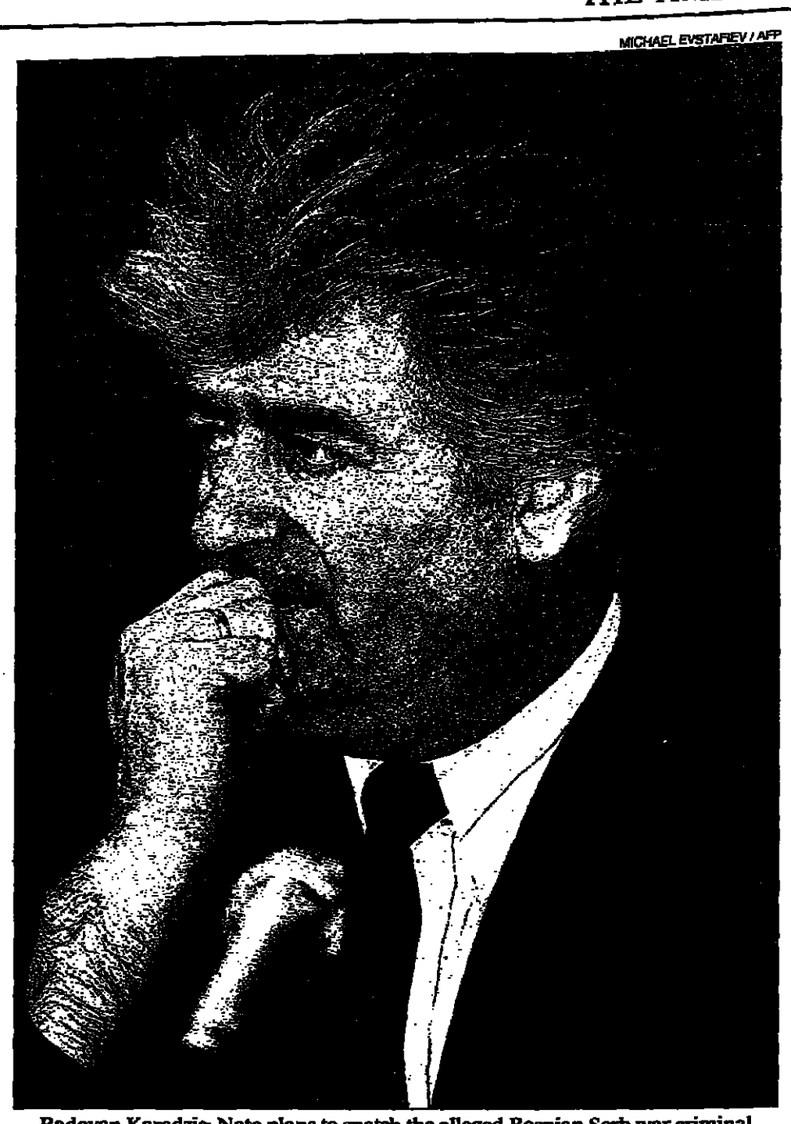
His alleged actions have seriously damaged the remaining trust between US and French forces in Bosnia. One US officer was quoted as saying that the issue had "ripped open a big gap in relations with the French".

Senior US officials reportedly described Major Guermelon's alleged actions as "despicable" and "appalling" and questioned whether co-operation with France over plans to capture Dr Karadzic was possible.

Louise Arbour, the chief prosecutor at the war crimes tribunal, who has been strongly critical of French inaction over indicted Bosnian Serb suspects, said this week she believed that Dr Karadzic would be brought to trial for masterminding the "ethnic cleansing" campaign against Muslims and Croats during the Bosnian war.

Last December, the Canadian judge accused France of allowing the southeastern sector of Bosnia under French control to become a safe haven for alleged war criminals — provoking a furious reaction from the French Government. She said France had consistently failed to move against known suspects and accused Paris of pursuing a "deliberate policy" of nonco-operation with the war crimes court.

Leading article, page 23



MICHAEL EVSTAFIEV / AFP

Radovan Karadzic: Nato plans to snatch the alleged Bosnian Serb war criminal are said to have been dropped after a French army officer leaked details to him

Serbs shun West and fight on in Kosovo

FROM TOM WALKER
AT LAKE RADONJIC, KOSOVO

AS SERBS yesterday delivered a strong rejection of foreign intervention in the Kosovo crisis, the Yugoslav Army dug itself into hilltop positions in the west of the contested province, exchanging fire with ethnic Albanian secessionists.

The Ministry of Information claimed that the army had been caught in a night-long firefight with Kosovo Liberation Army fighters crossing the border from Albania, but there was no independent confirmation.

Serbs used the referendum to vent their anger at the threat of foreign intervention in a territory they regard as the cradle of their church and culture. The referendum papers, crudely printed and not numbered, asked Serbs: "Do you accept foreign representatives taking part in resolving the problems of Kosovo and Metohija?"

For days the state media have warned Serbs of the alleged international conspiracy being hatched against them. Much national hatred has been focused on Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, now known by many Serbs as "the witch".

What is clear is that the threat of new sanctions holds little fear for the Belgrade leadership. President Milosevic of Yugoslavia looked jaunty at his Belgrade polling station, and told reporters that "this is a referendum for Serbia to make decisions in Serbia".

Tomorrow is the deadline set by the Contact Group — Britain, America, France, Italy, Russia and Germany — for the Serbs to withdraw their forces from Kosovo.

Mob traps cardinal in church

Tuzla: Up to 1,000 Serbs surrounded a church in the northern Bosnian town of Derventa yesterday, trapping the Roman Catholic Cardinal Vinko Puljic and worshippers inside for more than six hours, a United Nations spokesman said.

Norwegian troops of the Nato-led Stabilisation Force had been trying to negotiate a peaceful solution, while at the same time summoning between 20 and 25 armoured vehicles.

The Serb mob trapped Mgr Puljic — who was attending a St George's Day Mass — with 30 to 40 worshippers from nearby communities, the spokesman said.

The Serb news agency, SRNA, reported earlier that Serbs had blocked a road between Derventa — which is six miles from the Bosnia-Croatia border — and the nearby town of Bosanski Brod.

They were trying to prevent 17 buses and dozens of vehicles coming from Croatia with about 600 worshippers who planned to attend the Mass, it said. *(AFP)*

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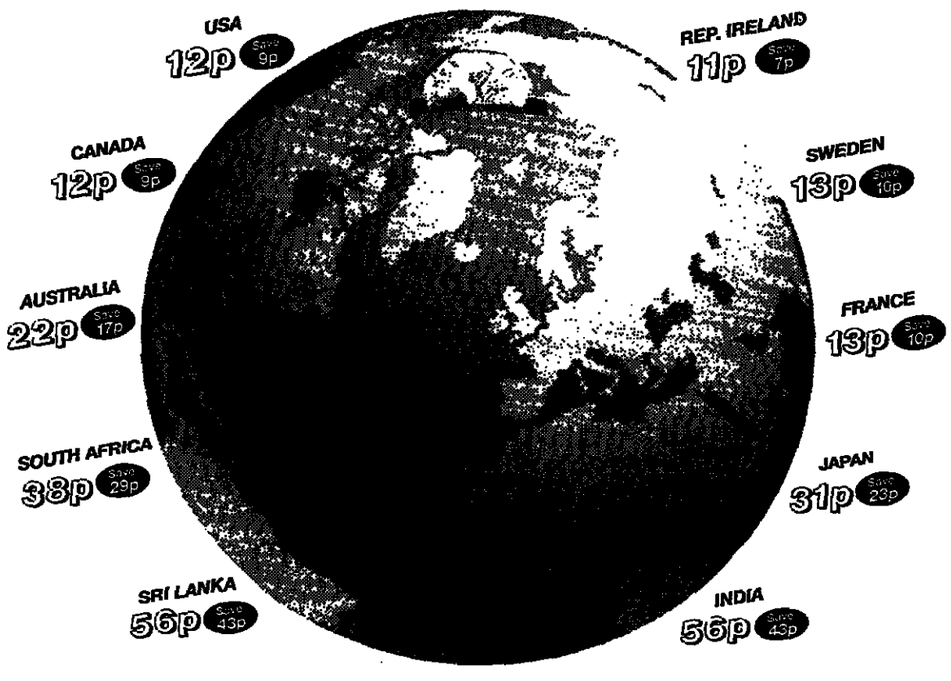
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Serbs shun West and fight on in Kosovo

FROM TOM WALKER
AT LAKE RADONJIC, KOSOVO

AS SERBS yesterday deli
ered a strong rejection
foreign intervention in
Kosovo crisis, the Yugosla
Army dug itself into fighti
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secessionists.

The Ministry of Informa
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had been caught in a
long firefight with
Liberation Army fighte
crossing the border from
bania, but there was no ind
pendent confirmation.

Serbs used the referendu
to vent their anger at
threat of foreign interventi
in a territory they regard
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culture. The referendu
papers, crudely printed
not numbered, asked Serb
"Do you accept foreign rep
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Kosovo and Metohija"

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Belgium in crisis over paedophile's easy escape

BY CHARLES BREMNER

THE Belgian Government had been thrown into crisis last night when Marc Dutroux, the alleged paedophile murderer whose activities caused a national upheaval, escaped from custody and vanished, well-armed, into the countryside.

Belgians were in a state of disbelief that the police, already forced to reform as result of their incompetence in the 1996 case, could have allowed Dutroux, 41, to give them the slip. Dutroux, a convicted child rapist, is charged with killing four girls.

In Brussels, the Belgian Parliament had immediately halted its session. Confusion was sown when Philippe Mahoux, the acting president of the Senate, first reported that he had been recaptured. This was at first denied by police. In Brussels, politicians and the public were incredulous that Dutroux, the most notorious criminal in the country's recent history, could have been allowed to give police the slip.

A political storm broke in August 1996 when investigators found the bodies of two eight-year-old girls in the basement of a house belonging to Dutroux in the city of Charleroi. They had starved to death after allegedly being held by Dutroux for a year. Police found the bodies of two teenage girls nearby several weeks later after Dutroux, his wife Michelle, and two other men had been arrested.

The failure of the rival police authorities to arrest Dutroux, despite his known record, fed a wave of public protests over what was seen as the incompetence and corruption at all levels of the Belgian state.

The Government of Jean-Luc Dehaene promised reforms to the legal system, including a merger between rival police forces, but only a handful of officers have been disciplined. An 18-month parliamentary inquiry concluded that there had been gross incompetence by police and judicial investigators but that there was no evidence to support the widespread belief that Dutroux had enjoyed protection from well-placed officials.

The report has done little to quell the popular assumption of a conspiracy that could involve politicians and high officials.

MICHEL GANGNE / AFP



RESCUE workers carry an injured passenger from a British-owned tourist coach which veered on to its side in a Paris underpass yesterday, injuring 42 people, seven severely, according to rescuers. The tourists were from from Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia.

Police believe that speeding may have been the cause of the accident.

Around 20 ambulances and rescue vehicles were sent to the scene, backed up by a helicopter, to take the injured to hospitals in and around the capital. Rescue services said two of those severely injured had to be cut free. Those with serious injuries were treated at the scene. "No one's life is in danger for now," Jean-Luc Chivot, the head of Paris's rescue services, said.

The coach was owned by Contiki Travel, a British firm, but leased to a Dutch outlet. It had a Dutch number plate. A Contiki Travel spokesman, Phil Gazzard, said that the coach was leaving Paris on the third day of a 25-day European tour.

He declined to comment on reports that it was speeding as it flipped over and could not say when or if the company would launch an inquiry.

Mr Gazzard said that according to his information, there were only four casualties, all serious. Witnesses said sparks flew as the coach crashed on to its side after taking a bend in the tunnel on the southern stretch of the busy Paris ring road in early-morning traffic.

"The coach was going too fast. The back tubeless tyre was under too much pressure and burst," said police officer Daniel Goutte, who is in charge of the preliminary inquiry into the accident.

The coach's speedometer was removed for examination. *(AFP)*

42 injured as tour bus crashes in Paris tunnel

Pope assures Italians the end is not yet nigh

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

TO THE dismay of Seventh Day Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses and followers of Nostradamus, but to the relief of almost everyone else, the Pope declared that the world is not about to end.

He said that it was doomed to end "at some point", but there was no fixed date, "nor can one be discerned from the Bible". At his weekly audience the Pope assured his listeners that the end of the world was not nigh, or anywhere near nigh, and said widespread fears that the new millennium would usher in the Last Judgment were unfounded.

Italy has been gripped by pre-millennial anxiety since the earthquakes in Umbria last September, which killed 11 people and damaged the Basilica of St Francis at Assisi. There are frequent rumours that Vesuvius, which destroyed Pompeii in AD79 and last erupted in 1944, is about to erupt again. The Vatican has sought to reassure people that the mysterious Third Secret of Fatima — allegedly revealed by the Virgin Mary to three Portuguese children in 1917 and kept secret by the Pope — does not predict Doomsday. But books on Fatima and interpretations of the arcane predictions of Nostradamus, the 16th-century sage, remain sought-after in bookshops.

Speaking on "The Second Coming of Christ at the End of All Things", the Pope said that attempts to predict the end of the world were "illusory and misleading ... history is moving towards its conclusion, but Christ did not indicate any chronological deadline." Apocalyptic visions were to be taken "symbolically" as images of "the precarious position of humanity and the sovereign power of Christ".

Theological experts said biblical references to the Apocalypse were at best "open to interpretation", including the Revelation of St John, with its visions of plagues, earthquakes and "mountains of fire" ushering in "a new heaven and new earth".



The Pope: "no fixed date"

☐ **Execution plea:** The Pope yesterday appealed to Rwanda's Government to halt the execution of 33 prisoners convicted of participation in the 1994 genocide of Tutsis and Hutus (Sam Kiley writes). But his call may ring hollow in Rwanda, where the Church has been accused of sheltering priests and nuns who took part in the mass killings.

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German MPs in resounding vote for euro

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

IN THE last, decisive parliamentary debate about the euro, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, yesterday crossed swords for the first time with his Social Democratic challenger, Gerhard Schröder. Judging by the outcome, however, the two men might as well have been duelling with spaghetti.

Herr Schröder agreed with the Chancellor that the euro was a good thing for Germany and in a vote, the parliament approved the move by 575 votes to 35 with five abstentions. There were some isolated squeaks of criticism but nothing that reflected the popular distrust of the euro. An opinion poll for the Association of Bankers showed yesterday that 62 per cent of Germans reject the currency.

There was regret from Green deputies that a referendum had not been held. The former communist Party of Democratic Socialists said there were still too many risks entailed — thus speaking to its natural constituency in eastern Germany where the mark is still identified with unity.

A few rebels showed their colours, including Walter Schulhof, a Christian Democrat, who said the number of monetary union start-up states was too large. Four Social Democrats also came out openly against the euro, including Liesel Hartenstein who said: "It will lead inevitably to companies moving out of high-wage countries and will certainly intensify the wave of mergers, which we know leads to job losses."



Kohl: made occasional sideswipe at his rival

Herr Schröder, who in January described the euro as undergoing "sickly premature birth", declared yesterday in favour of the currency providing that the political class started to talk about the risks as well as the chances it offered. "There has to be a damned good reason for this move," he said, "and we have to communicate it properly."

He then added: "As it happens, I think there are good reasons for the euro." This prompted groans from government ranks which, correctly spotted a U-turn. "If the euro does not have a social dimension then we will never secure popular legitimacy of the euro," he said. A Chancellor Schröder, in other words would support the euro, in a pragmatic sort of way.

"In the short term the introduction of the single currency will create pressures," he said. "We can only master these problems in Germany and in Europe if we place jobs at the centre of our policies."

Herr Kohl, aware that there was broad bipartisan support for the euro, could afford to be statesmanlike, making only the occasional sideswipe at Herr Schröder. Focus group analysis shows that Herr Kohl outstrips Herr Schröder only on the criteria of statesmanship (87 per cent to 23 per cent) and reliability (49 per cent to 44 per cent). On all other measures — economic competence, credibility, pleasantness, ability to make decisions — Herr Schröder is ahead.

"In politics we speak of once-in-lifetime events. This is exactly one such event," said Herr Kohl, who considers himself to be one of the main architects of monetary union. "I am certain that in just a few years time, the euro will be accepted as readily as the German mark is now."

Agreement had been reached meanwhile on Germany's candidate for a seat on the six-member board of the European Central Bank. Herr Kohl and Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, are going to nominate Otmar Issing, the Bundesbank's chief economist. This represents a victory for Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank president, who had argued hard for an experienced central banker to take up the position.

Rumours continue to circulate about a possible Franco-German compromise on the head of the bank. Most versions seem to agree that Wim Duisenberg — head of the European Monetary Institute — will get the job.

☐ **Genscher departs:** The euro debate was the occasion of Hans-Dietrich Genscher's final parliamentary speech. At 71, the former Foreign Minister — who did much to unify Germany — will be stepping down before the election.

MICHAEL JUNG / EPA



A parliamentary official collects anti-euro slogans — Euro, not like this — from deputies of the Party of Democratic Socialists on the Speaker's orders yesterday

EU shopper deal gives two-year guarantees on goods purchases

BY CHARLES BREMNER

EUROPEANS will be given an automatic two-year guarantee on goods bought anywhere in the EU under a law that was approved yesterday and hailed by the British presidency of the Union as a breakthrough for consumers.

"This directive brings real benefits under the UK's objective of creating a 'People's Europe'," said Nigel Griffiths, the Consumer Affairs Minister, after pushing through the draft law against minority opposition from Germany and Denmark. The aim was simply to provide the same minimum rights for consumers wherever they shop and live in the EU.

The scheme, which has taken two years to hammer out, aims to end the uncertainties surrounding the purchase of goods bought in the 15 states, which have widely varying laws on consumer protection. Cross-border buyers of cars and electronics have often faced refusal by local retailers to service or replace them.

Shoppers will now have the initial right to a replacement or repair and later a full refund if a product proves faulty within two years of purchase. Disgruntled customers will, however, have to return the goods to the country where they bought them. Consumer groups failed in an effort to have the EU order retailers in the country of residence to honour guarantees on goods bought in other states.

Germany and Denmark resisted the law, which must still win approval from the European Parliament, on the ground that it amounted to EU interference in an area of domestic concern.

The proposed Consumers' Guarantees Directive brings together 15 varying sets of laws on product guarantees, including periods of trader liability which range from six months in some states to unlimited periods in others.

The Government said the directive would give British consumers improved rights. These include:

☐ Specific rights to repair or replacement for up to two years on new goods and one year on secondhand goods. The British remedy of damages lasts for six years and will be maintained;

☐ If a fault happens during the first six months, it will be assumed to have been there when the consumer bought it, making it easier for rights to be asserted in court;

☐ It will be put beyond doubt that manufacturers' guarantees are legally binding.

☐ Retailers' duty: Under the new scheme, customers' redress will still lie with the retailer from whom the goods were bought, so that car dealerships in Britain will still be able to refuse to honour guarantees in respect of cars bought more cheaply in other EU member states (Robin Young writes).

Similarly a cheap television set bought in a French hypermarket will still have to be taken back to France with the receipt if it proves faulty.

Commercial guarantees, which are offered voluntarily by many companies trading internationally, are not affected by the proposed directive.

St George faces Chinese dragon

FROM STUART WOLFENDALE IN HONG KONG

ST GEORGE'S DAY was marked in a ceremony at the Cenotaph in Hong Kong yesterday, ten months after the former colony was returned to China.

The red-and-white flag of the Special Administrative Region might be flying overhead, but it was remembrance as usual for the stayers-on and torch carriers of a departed patriotism.

It was remarkable there were flags flying there at all. The Cenotaph, a copy of Lutyens's Whitehall monument in London, is a rebuking presence in the flashy Central district.

A clutch of middle-aged white men in sober suits and three women stood pensively on the perimeter of the lawn before the ceremony.

One worried over the lack of numbers until the van of the congregation, ten Hong Kong Club men, strode from their door with a bugler from the Hong Kong Police. The crowd of now twenty, including a "taipan", a retired colonel, a lay preacher and Miles Jackson-Lipkin, a former judge with bowler hat, brolly and pinstripes, was briefed by the president of the St George Society. That personage wore a white-and-red decoration at his neck and looked faintly orange.

The ceremony was brief and hard to catch over the disrespectful roar of the morning traffic. Three of the group laid a solitary wreath.

A few passers by stopped at a distance. One dapper, elderly Chinese man came in closer, looking pleased. Probably, somewhere, some time, he had had something to do with, if not Queen and Country, at least the old regime. Most Chinese pedestrians averted their gaze.

Jack Edwards, former prisoner of war, indefatigable campaigner for the rights of overseas ex-servicemen and now remembrances, gave a brief homily which was largely lost in a surge from the traffic lights.

The gathering, satisfied that some sort of toehold had been kept, retired for a full English breakfast at the inexplicably named China Tee Shoppe.

'Suicidal' general out of danger

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALY'S most decorated crime fighter, General Francesco Delfino, was recovering from an apparent suicide attempt yesterday, doctors said, after allegations that he had extorted money from the family of a kidnapped industrialist, Giuseppe Soffiantini.

General Delfino, 60, an officer in the Carabinieri paramilitary police, was taken to hospital in Verona and received 15 stitches after he butted his head repeatedly against the wall of his prison cell.

Initially he was said to be in a coma, but later medical reports said that the general was out of danger and likely to recover in a few days.

The general was arrested at his home in the Officer Cadet School of Carabinieri in Rome last week after banknotes from the ransom paid for the release of Signor Soffiantini were found in his flat.

The money is said to be part of £600,000 that General Delfino had allegedly extorted from the Soffiantini family through a business associate.

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Wang's mother urges freedom for dissidents

Release reflects West's softer line on human rights in China, reports James Pringle

WANG LINGYUN, mother of Wang Dan, the former Tiananmen Square student leader who was released from a long jail term last Sunday and flown to the United States, said yesterday that although his release indicated a "good trend" in Chinese attitudes, it was not an indication that human rights in the country had improved.

Mrs Wang said she would like to go America to spend time with her son, whom she has seen only once a month on prison visits, but was afraid that the authorities would not let her return home to China, as this had happened to others.

The 62-year-old history graduate of Beijing University, where her son also studied history, said that she and her husband had spent only a few hours with him after his release before he was sent into exile.

As Mr Wang, 29, is being fêted in the US during his first few days of freedom after release on "medical parole" from an 11-year sentence for "trying to overthrow the Government", security police continue to maintain a vigil outside his parents' home in northern Beijing. However, the Wangs can move around freely within the Chinese capital.

Mrs Wang said that security men had been based outside her sixth-floor flat since her son was sentenced in October 1996.

Diplomats in the city said that Mr Wang was released to improve the atmosphere during the visit in late June of President Clinton to China.

American and European officials have said that the releases of Mr Wang and of Wei Jingsheng, the leading human rights activist, last November, resulted from a less confrontational approach by the US and Europe to China's human rights record and a decision not to raise the issue at the annual United Nations review of human rights in Geneva this year.

Mrs Wang said she hoped that the freeing of her son, two months before Mr Clinton's visit, was not the last of such releases. "If they can release one or two political prisoners, they can release more," she said.

Mrs Wang, speaking of human rights in China, added: "In order to change the human rights situation you have to improve the basic rights of the people. In the past decade there has been a great improvement in people's living standards, but in politics there has not been much change. The law in some respects may be better, but if we do not improve political reform, and it lags behind like it is now, it will undermine economic reform."

Mrs Wang, who said she had been a member of the Communist Party for 21 years, said she did not think people would enjoy democracy in her lifetime. "Democracy will not be bestowed on us," she said. "The people must work hard to enjoy the fruits of democracy and there must be someone who can make sacrifices to obtain these human rights for the others."

She praised the early years of the republic when, she said, the country had been moving in the right direction.

Like her son, who played a prominent role in the Tiananmen protests of the summer of 1989, Mrs Wang has spent time in jail.

After the protests, which were suppressed violently by the People's Liberation Army with hundreds dead, she was arrested at her home and detained for more than 50 days.

"When the police came to my door, they said they just wanted to ask me some questions about Wang Dan," she said. "So I left with only the key to the house and without even a change of clothes.

"But I was held for more than seven weeks and denied a visit even by my husband although I was never accused of anything".

Of her son, she said: "I hope that this is the last time he will be in the spotlight.



Wang Lingyun receives the congratulations of relations after the release of her son, Wang Dan

PAT SULLIVAN / AP



Debbie Cannon, the killer's wife, outside the jail in Huntsville, Texas, as he was executed. He shot dead a mother of eight who gave him a home when he was 17

Killer dies after botched injection

Huntsville: A Texas man sentenced to death for murdering a woman when he was 17 has been executed by injection, despite a papal clemency plea.

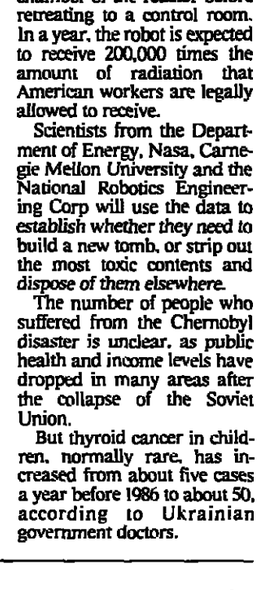
Joseph Cannon, 38, died at the second attempt, ten minutes after a mixture of chemicals was injected into his arm. Larry Fitzgerald, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, said the first execution attempt failed because the needle "blew out of his arm" as the lethal solution began flowing. As a result, a weeping Cannon made two final statements. In both he apologised for killing Anne Walsh, 45, a mother of eight, in 1977, while high on drugs and alcohol.

"I am really sorry. I love you all. I love you, God," he said before the needle jerked free. Witnesses, who included Walsh's five sons and his mother, were ushered out while the needle was reinserted. When they returned, Cannon was more composed. He smiled and told them: "I kind of lost my cool a while ago. I am sorry for what I did to your Mom."

Cannon was convicted of shooting Walsh seven times with a .22 pistol, then attempting to assault her sexually. In his confession, he said she begged for her life. She had taken him into her home so he could stay on probation and out of jail after a burglary conviction. *(Reuters)*

Nuclear-proof robot recruited to combat leak at Chernobyl

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON



AMERICAN scientists will send a radioactive-proof robot to the heart of Ukraine's wrecked Chernobyl power plant in an urgent mission to contain radiation leaking from the site of the world's worst nuclear accident.

The *Pioneer* robot will penetrate the crumbling concrete tomb around Reactor Number 4 which exploded on April 26, 1986, in the most ambitious international expedition yet launched to prevent more tons of radiactive dust escaping over Europe.

Yesterday it emerged that cracks have been detected in the sole reactor still in use at the four-reactor Soviet-built compound.

French nuclear inspectors said they found a large number of cracks in the stainless steel pipes of the cooling system and primary circuits. Reactor Number 3, which has been closed for repairs for a month, is due to reopen next month.

Earlier this month, President Kuchma threatened to keep Chernobyl running instead of closing it in 2000 as promised, if Western governments failed to deliver $1.6 billion (£1 million) in loans to complete two nuclear power plants in western Ukraine.

The disaster, caused when a test of the reactor's safety systems led to an uncontrolled power surge, sent gases containing uranium and other compounds drifting over Britain, Western Europe and Scandinavia.

The robot, built by RedZone Robotics in Pittsburgh, will investigate the decaying 20-storey concrete-and-steel sarcophagus built over the ruins of the fourth reactor. In January, officials at Chernobyl said the foundations of the sarcophagus were crumbling, raising the fear that the roof might collapse, sending tonnes of radioactive dust drifting over Europe.

Engineers are also worried that radiation from 190 tonnes of "nuclear lava" — the core and surrounding machinery of the reactor which melted during the explosion and fire — is leaking downwards into the water table or into the nearby River Pripyat, which supplies Kiev, the capital.

Starting in November, the 4ft-long robot, dragging an electrical cable 110 yards long, will map out the wrecked interior, drilling 5in samples out of the lava piles. It is designed to withstand sitting next to the most radioactive spots for 41 days. A German robot sent in last year lasted seven minutes before radiation shut down its computer, according to Nasa researchers.

Workers wearing lead-lined protective suits will have to rush *Pioneer* inside the first chamber of the reactor before retreating to a control room. In a year, the robot is expected to receive 200,000 times the amount of radiation that American workers are legally allowed to receive.

Scientists from the Department of Energy, Nasa, Carnegie Mellon University and the National Robotics Engineering Corp will use the data to establish whether they need to build a new tomb, or strip out the most toxic contents and dispose of them elsewhere.

The number of people who suffered from the Chernobyl disaster is unclear, as public health and income levels have dropped in many areas after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

But thyroid cancer in children, normally rare, has increased from about five cases a year before 1986 to about 50, according to Ukrainian government doctors.

Clinton pilot faces charge of adultery

BY TOM RHODES

FURTHER allegations of adultery hit the White House yesterday, this time involving a Marine Corps commander who flew President Clinton's helicopter.

Major Vernon Scoggin, who until last year was a commander in the White House helicopter unit, was facing charges of adultery and a possible discharge from the military over an alleged affair with the wife of a fellow officer.

The pilot, who says that evidence against him was obtained illegally, had tried to sue the US Marines in a federal court after a neighbour taped telephone calls between him and Cathy Conger, his alleged lover and the wife of another Marine major who lived next door to him in Quantico, Virginia.

A federal judge has now rejected his complaint and the Marine Corps is planning private discharge hearings against Major Scoggin next month.

Inquiries began in 1996 when Major Scoggin was still piloting Marine One, the helicopter that shuttles the President from the White House lawn to Andrews Air Force Base and to local events around Washington.

Both the major and Mrs Conger denied adultery, but she later admitted the affair to her husband.

Crippled actor walks tall in new Hollywood role

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

HE STILL cannot feed himself, but three years after being immobilised from the neck down in a riding accident, Christopher Reeve is busier than many of his Hollywood contemporaries. It may be a result of trying to cure paralysis while starting work as a director.

Confined to a $40,000 (£25,000) wheelchair, Mr Reeve stunned even his admirers by directing his first feature film last year. To his parallel role as a fundraiser for spinal cord research, he has now added those of author. His autobiography will shortly be published on both sides of the Atlantic.

My Story, dictated between breaths forced on him by a ventilator, describes the 45-year-old actor's rise from Princeton student to screen icon in *Superman*, and his struggle since crushing his top two vertebrae in a fall while show-jumping in 1995. It is serialised in *The Times* from tomorrow.

In the months after his accident, Mr Reeve has admitted, he suffered black moments when he hoped he might die from his injury. Though he still only has movement in his facial muscles, he has reported regaining some sensation in his back, and frequently repeats his aim of eventually walking again.

Such a goal is not unthinkable. Partly funded by the Christopher Reeve Foundation, which was set up last year to foster spinal research not backed by the US Government, scientists have recently reported success in regenerating rats' spinal tissue — previously considered impossible in mammals.

Mr Reeve has said he is willing to be a "guinea pig" as soon as doctors feel ready to apply their laboratory findings to people. In the meantime he has prevented muscle atrophy by exercising for up to four hours a day on machines set up in the New York home that he shares with his wife, Dana, 36, and their five-year-old son, Will.

The actor, now revered in America as a symbol of courage in adversity, keeps up a heavy public speaking schedule. His first effort as a director, *In The Gloaming*, about a son's reunion with his mother before dying of Aids, won generally good reviews. He is said to be considering a remake of *Rear Window* as his next acting project.



Christopher Reeve with wife Dana in a fund appeal

Couple have a shot at reconciliation

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

A MARRIAGE counselling session turned into a shoot-out at a California church when an estranged couple drew guns and wounded each other.

Michael and Bonnie Martin, who have three teenage children, both face charges of attempted murder after exchanging fire in front of their marriage counsellor at the St James Episcopal Cathedral in Fresno on Wednesday.

Police said the couple had a history of marital difficulties and that Mrs Martin, a hospital administrator, had recently filed divorce papers for the third time and moved out of the family home. Shortly before the gunfight, police had been called to her parents' home after a complaint that Mr Martin was there brandishing a firearm.

Mr Martin, a self-employed lorry driver, arrived late at the marriage counselling session, clutching a beer with a gun tucked into his belt. When his wife got up to leave, he shot her.

Bleeding from her wound, Mrs Martin pulled a pistol from her handbag and returned fire, hitting her husband in the chin. As he fled, she followed him outside and collapsed. He shot her at least once more before running out of bullets. He then fell to his knees beside her and muttered: "What did I do?"

"It's a good thing that he had been drinking because he could have hit her more," the Rev Bud Searcy said. "He was a lousy shot." The couple were rushed to hospital and were reported yesterday to be in fair condition. At least five shots were fired.

The Rev Russel Willingham, their counsellor, was too shaken to talk to the press. Mr Searcy said Mr Willingham had not heard from the couple for about a year until one of them called him this week.

Police said there had been "prior disturbances" at the couple's home, most recently this month. Neighbours expressed dismay.

"They weren't real nice to each other," Henry Watkins told the local newspaper.

One friend, who asked for anonymity, said: "I know Bonnie loves him. I think she was trying to help him."

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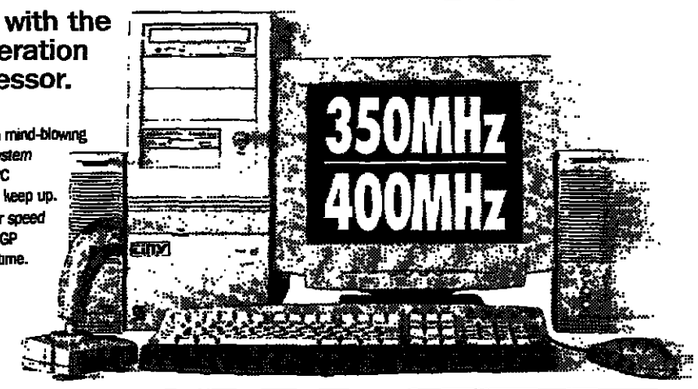
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Whitewater's silent witness still defies jury

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

SUSAN MCDOUGAL, the jailed former Whitewater partner of Bill and Hillary Clinton, faced a further prison term yesterday by refusing to testify against the President as she was led in chains before a Little Rock grand jury.

Dressed in orange prison fatigues, McDougal, who has spent 18 months in jail on contempt charges for failing to answer the same jury's questions in 1996, declared she had no intention of offering any evidence as she entered the Arkansas courtroom. "I won't be talking," she said.

Her family, meanwhile, launched a campaign to stop what they described as her torture by Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, who had subpoenaed her from a Los Angeles jail cell to appear in court.

They demanded an investigation of Mr Starr. McDougal has started a two-year term on fraud convictions from the first Whitewater trial and is awaiting embezzlement charges in Los Angeles involving her role as an assistant to Zubin Mehta, the conductor.

Prosecutors from Mr Starr's office, who have offered her immunity in return for evidence, were attempting last night to compel her to tell about a $300,000 (£180,000) loan that David Hale, an Arkansas banker, has alleged Mr Clinton pressed him to solicit on behalf of McDougal.

McDougal and her late husband, James, ran Madison Guaranty, the bank at the heart of the Whitewater land venture. She has spent longer in prison than anyone else convicted as a result of inquiries into the President and has long been targeted by Mr Starr. Bill Henley, her brother, yesterday accused the independent prosecutor of a witch-hunt, but said his sister was prepared to face further time in jail. "Sometimes a principle is far more important than the written law. I believe she is the only one left with any integrity in this case."

Judge Susan Webber Wright, who earlier this month dismissed the Paula Jones sexual harassment case against the President and also jailed McDougal for contempt two years ago, had granted an immunity order that, in effect, waived her right to silence under the Fifth Amendment.

Officials from Mr Starr's office said they were following the law and denied trying to exert undue pressure on McDougal.

Mark Geragos, McDougal's lawyer, said he would file a motion within 60 days seeking dismissal of the case.

PAT CARTER / AP



Susan McDougal being escorted in chains from a van by US marshals yesterday at Little Rock in Arkansas. She vowed not to speak to the grand jury

Threatened bank crash rings Harare alarm bells

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

ZIMBABWE'S economy has been plunged again into uncertainty as a merchant bank run by the country's champion of black economic empowerment stands poised on the brink of collapse and threatens to bring down much of the rest of the country's financial sector with it.

Herbert Murerwa, the Minister of Finance, announced yesterday that external auditors had been sent in to investigate the opaque operations of United Merchant Bank, one of a crop of new banks opened in the past three years in response to President Mugabe's policy of encouraging blacks to wrest economic control from the white business establishment.

Mr Murerwa said the investigators were "to ensure that the depositors' funds are protected and that the integrity of our financial system is maintained at all times".

Senior banking sources said the alarm was sounded last week when commercial banks, effectively cashiers for the country's merchant banks, began to bounce UMB cheques for "enormous sums". In a week, one commercial bank alone has refused to honour cheques for millions of pounds.

Mr Mugabe has chosen "indigenisation" — the term used here to refer to black empowerment — and a group of black tycoons to help secure his political survival, but the privileges accorded the group are a factor in the country's rapid economic and political decline.

The bank closed on Friday last week without explanation, but then reopened on Monday. Reports here yesterday said investigators concerned about "anomalies" in the bank's affairs were barred entry by Roger Boka, the tycoon behind it, but were admitted when they threatened to strip him of his licence.



Murerwa: called in external auditors

The sources say there are two other banks in the same predicament as Mr Boka's. There are fears that the collapse of the three would start a run on much of banking sector.

Government departments, para-statal organisations and their pension funds were ordered to bank with Mr Boka, and US$126 million (£78 million) of their deposits are now at risk.

The development is expected to intensify opposition to Mr Mugabe. On Wednesday he launched an attack on the World Council of Churches which has decided to allow a Zimbabwean gay and lesbian organisation to participate at an ecumenical assembly here in December. "Animals in the jungle are better than these people because at least they know that this is a man or a woman," he said.

☐ Campus shooting: Police shot and wounded a university student in a continuing class boycott over privatisation of campus services. *(AFP)*

WORLD IN BRIEF

Tributes to former Greek President

Athens: The former President and Prime Minister of Greece, *Constantine Karamanlis*, who died early yesterday, is to be spared the elaborate state funeral for departed prominent personalities that in recent years have often turned into media circuses (John Carr writes):

In his will, Mr Karamanlis, 91, stipulated that he wanted an austere, unobtrusive funeral in a small church in the quiet Athens suburb of Philothei and burial in the grounds of a nearby political studies institution that bears his name. The funeral is planned for today. Tributes for the former politician poured in from world leaders. Mr Karamanlis was a conservative statesman who presided over modern Greece's smoothest periods of parliamentary rule, restored democracy in 1974 and engineered the country's European Union membership.

Obituary, page 25

Sydney dock turmoil returns

Sydney: Australia's troubled waterfront industry was in fresh turmoil after the high court granted a temporary stay of an order that Patrick Stevedores should reinstate 1,400 workers sacked two weeks ago (Roger Maynard writes). The ruling followed dockside jubilation earlier in the day when the federal court dismissed a company appeal against allowing the dockers back to work. The failure of the firm's appeal was seen as a big blow to John Howard, the Prime Minister, whose conservative Government was elected after promising waterfront reform.

America aid flights for Iraq

New York: A non-profit disaster relief group has said it plans to deliver medical supplies to Baghdad in the first humanitarian flights from the United States to Iraq since the 1991 Gulf War. Officials from AmeriCares said that the three-flight mission, starting today from New York, had the approval of both the US and Iraqi Governments and the United Nations. The supplies include antibiotics, painkillers, basic surgical materials, hospital supplies and nutritional supplements for 22 medical institutions in Iraq. *(Reuters)*

James Earl Ray dies at 70



Nashville: James Earl Ray, right, serving 99 years for the murder of the Rev Martin Luther King in 1968, has died. Ray, 70, had been diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver and had been in hospital and in and out of a coma several times over the past 15 months. Ray initially confessed to the murder and was convicted after a trial that lasted just three hours. He later recanted, saying that he had entered his plea to avoid going to the electric chair. *(AFP)*

Storm kills nine in cinema

Dhaka: A cinema collapsed during a storm in rural Bangladesh, killing nine people and injuring ten, an official said. The storm killed nine more people in the east of the country. An audience of 50 had been watching a film in the brick-walled, tin-roofed cinema in the town of Rangamti, 135 miles south of the capital, Dhaka. The storms have killed at least 33 people and injured hundreds. *(AP)*

Burundi death toll mounts

Bujumbura: Seventy-six rebels and civilians were killed in Burundi in an attack by Hutu guerrillas 12 miles east of the capital, the army said. Rebels used hoes and machetes in the attack, stealing at least 30 head of cattle and burning many houses to the ground, according to local government officials. At least 12 civilians were wounded. The attack is the most serious incident there this year. *(Reuters)*



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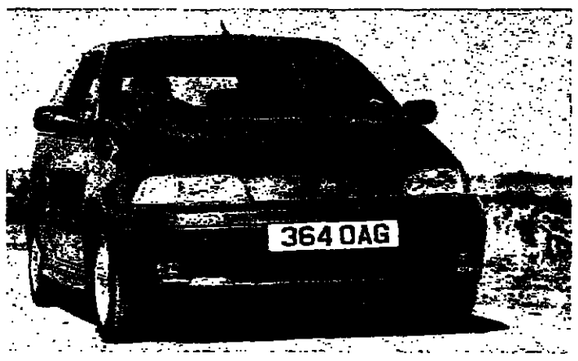


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BY IAN MURRAY
EDICAL CORRESPONDENT

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Israeli leader pays homage at Auschwitz

Roger Boyes and Christopher Walker report on nation's 'Day of the Holocaust'

BINYAMIN NETANYAHU, the Israeli Prime Minister, shrugged off domestic criticism yesterday and joined the annual March of the Living to Auschwitz death camp in southeast Poland to mourn the millions of Jews murdered in the Nazi Holocaust.

It was an unprecedented step for an Israeli leader. Some Israeli critics believe Poland is too steeped in anti-Semitism; Orthodox Jews believe that Auschwitz, as the world's biggest Jewish cemetery, should be left in peace.

However, the slow, silent shuffle down the long concrete road to Auschwitz-Birkenau, site of the crematoriums, was supposed to mark the 50th anniversary of the state of Israel. First, the dead had to be mourned; only then could Israel celebrate its half century of survival and relative prosperity. In Israel itself, Holocaust Remembrance Day was marked by two minutes' silence across the country.

Mr Netanyahu walked at the head of a procession of about 7,000 young Jews and 1,000 elderly survivors. Some lived by chance, others because they were fit enough to work as forced labourers. Francziska Pillersdorf, 73, from Toronto, said that at the selection by SS officers on the entry ramp of the concentration camp her two younger sisters were sent to be gassed. Her mother chose to stay with the girls and died with them. "I was the oldest, so I survived," she said yesterday.

Polish and Israeli security forces were in evidence everywhere yesterday. The camp has been the focus of arguments for the past ten years that at some times erupted into violence.



Israelis remember at Yad Vashem

Jewish activists objected to the use of a camp outbuilding by Carmelite nuns and staged angry protests. Polish workers, saying they wanted to protect the nuns, manhandled them off the premises.

Far-right groups have organised their own marches in and around the camp over the past two years in attempts to provoke Jews. Throughout this week, Polish police have been checking anyone who may be a neo-Nazi to prevent any such action.

In Israel yesterday, the country marked its annual remembrance of the Holocaust with an impassioned call to make amends to the survivors who 50 years ago helped to create the state.

Mr Netanyahu, in a rare admission of how badly the 250,000 camp survivors were treated by fellow Jews when they arrived in what was then then British-administered Palestine, told a gathering at Jerusalem's Yad Vashem genocide memorial: "We native-born and veteran Israelis did not always understand the enormity of their ordeal and the immensity of the heroism that was again demanded of them on their arrival here."

The Prime Minister, who was speaking before leaving for Poland, touched on a raw Jewish nerve: memories of the way in which many of the first survivors to arrive in Israel were treated with suspicion and contempt.

"This is the proper moment to put into words the appreciation of the nation," Mr Netanyahu said. "By the very fact of their [some of the survivors] being here with us, they and their children embody the victory of life over death, the victory of righteousness over evil."

A report on anti-Semitism published in Jerusalem disclosed that although physical violence against Jews worldwide had declined in the past year, dissemination of anti-Semitic and "Holocaust denial" propaganda had increased.

REINHARD KRAUSE / REUTERS



Binyamin Netanyahu carries the Israeli flag in yesterday's March of the Living at Auschwitz death camp

Cola war breaks out in India

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN CHANDIGARH

INDIA has become a cola battleground. With a market of several hundred million potential consumers, PepsiCo and Coca-Cola Co are slogging it out with advertising blitzes, aggressive marketing and — since last week — a legal war.

Pepsi sells more than Coke, one of the few markets anywhere in the world where it holds the lead.

However, Coke is coming up fast only five years after being allowed back in the country, and in some parts of India may be ahead of its rival. Coca-Cola was ordered out of the country in 1977, probably to protect local soft drinks makers.

Pepsi has had an unbroken run of nine years in the country, and has become a vital source of income to farmers in Punjab who supply vast quantities of tomatoes, potatoes and other commodities for its packaged snacks sideline. A plant near the Punjabi city of Patiala produces the concentrate for the Cola amid intense secrecy to protect the formula.

Coca-Cola acquired 60 per cent of the Indian soft drinks market in 1993 by buying a range of local brands. Sales of Coke, however, have not been as impressive as hoped.

PepsiCo has instigated legal proceedings against Coca-Cola's subsidiary for what it calls illegal and unethical business practices, including alleged attempts to poach employees and claims that it tried to upset Pepsi's contracts with customers.

Pepsi has hired some of the most expensive lawyers in the country, who have asked Delhi High Court for an injunction banning Coca-Cola from hiring Pepsi employees or hindering Pepsi's business through "illegal" actions.

Netanyahu warned of Egyptian threat to arms supremacy

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S military intelligence command has warned the right-wing Government of Binyamin Netanyahu about Egypt's rapid acquisition of advanced Western weaponry which it claims is significantly eroding Israel's qualitative advantage.

Details of the intelligence assessment were presented to the inner security Cabinet this week and disclosed in detail yesterday by the Tel Aviv paper *Maariv*. "The leaders of the defence establishment told the inner Cabinet that although the chances of confrontation between Israel and Egypt are quite small, the fast-paced acquisition of advanced Western weapons ought to be of concern and is liable to serve as a future threat in the event that Egypt should decide to withdraw its commitment to the [1979] peace, or if a new Egyptian administration takes office," *Maariv* said.

The report has alarmed many Israelis and added urgency to the London peace talks starting on May 4. Israeli officials are well aware that the widely trusted President Mubarak of Egypt has no designated successor and that Islamic militants are dedicated to overthrow his or any other moderate regime in Cairo.

According to the assessment, Cairo's recent military purchases undermine Israel's long-standing regional military superiority and establish Egypt, with a population of more than 60 million, as the strongest and most modern military force in the Middle East apart from Israel. The military intelligence experts, whose work has not suffered the recent blows to its credibility that have accrued to the mainly civilian Mossad intelligence agency, said that Egypt, despite what is widely known as its "cold peace" with the Jewish state, continues to regard Israel as a potential enemy and is in constant preparation for a possible confict with it.

Many Western diplomats have expressed the fear that any renewed widescale confrontation between Israel and the Palestinians, particularly one involving attempts by Israel to reconquer any of the areas handed over to Palestinian self-rule, could spark a war involving Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

Maariv added: "Concern was also expressed at the fast-paced deterioration of Israel's qualitative superiority over Egypt, which has invested billions of US dollars over recent years — most of it from money granted as American aid — in altering their army from an antiquated 'Eastern' army into a modern Western one.

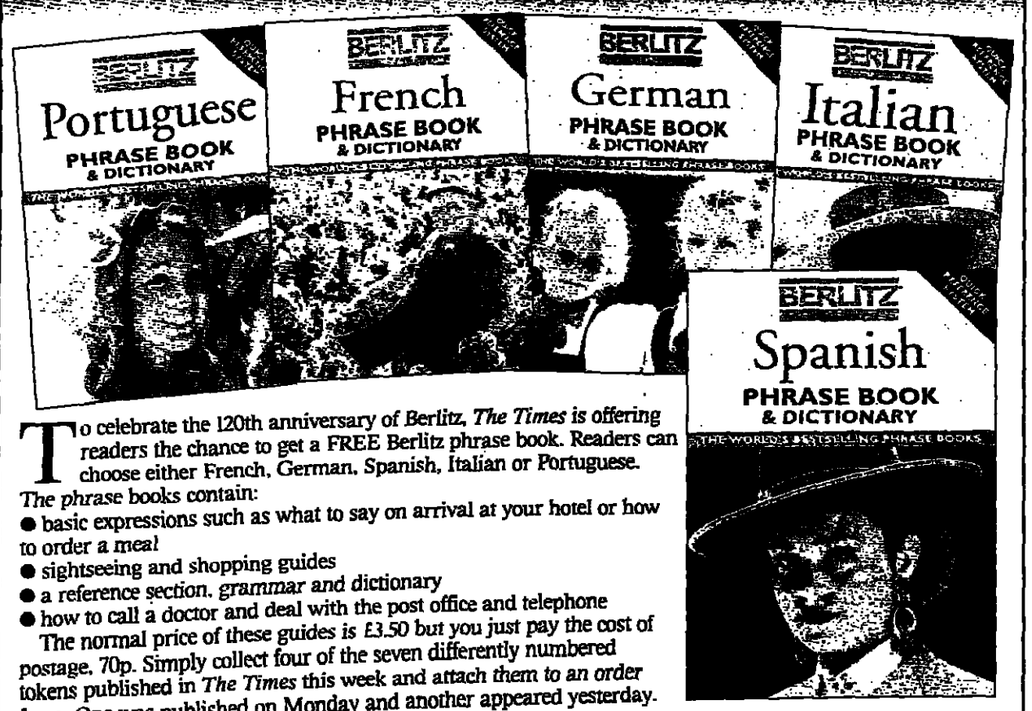
"This pertains principally to the Egyptian Air Force, which poses a real threat to the Israeli Air Force's regional hegemony. Egypt has equipped itself with F16 combat jets and with air armaments that are even more advanced than those in Israel's possession, with advanced ships and missiles (Harpoon) and with American Abrams tanks that are built in Egypt."

The assessment was presented by Major-General Moshe Yaalon, head of military intelligence, Brigadier-General Amos Gilad, commander of the Intelligence Corps Research Unit, and senior naval and air force officers.

Iran's efforts at equipping itself with non-conventional weapons and building long-range ballistic missiles were said still to constitute the main external threat to Israel's security.

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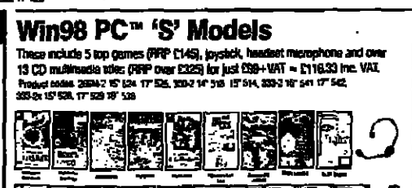
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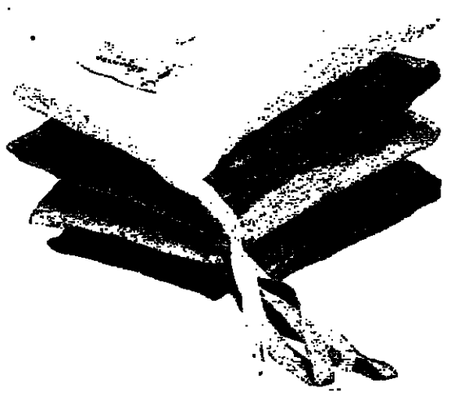
HOT TIP

Modern flattening irons for hair have a nasty habit of producing split ends. Enter the BaByliss Steam and Shine, which smooths and revives tired hair without dire side effects. Combining a thin straightening iron with a comb and steam action, it smooths out kinks and frizz on naturally straight hair, giving a really sleek result. It also tames curly hair, though it won't give the straight-edged Calvin Klein look seen on this season's catwalks. The BaByliss Steam and Shine costs £21.99 and is available at Boots, Argos and major electrical retailers (0990 133 191).

Objects of desire



■ This season, the kitsch flip-flop has been elevated to serious fashion status with 3F's Japanese wooden clogs. In natural wood or black lacquer and with pink or red thong straps, they are perfect for balmy days when comfort is everything. £65 by 3F Home, 4 Kingley Street W1 (0171-437 6822)



■ Backpackers and travellers can camp out in style this summer with Graham & Green's pastel-coloured silk sleeping bags. For intrepid travellers who like to travel light, sleeping in a thin silk cocoon, which packs up tightly into a small pouch, is a must-have. Vietnamese silk sleeping bags, £24.95 each from Graham & Green, 4 Elgin Crescent W11 (0171-727 4594)

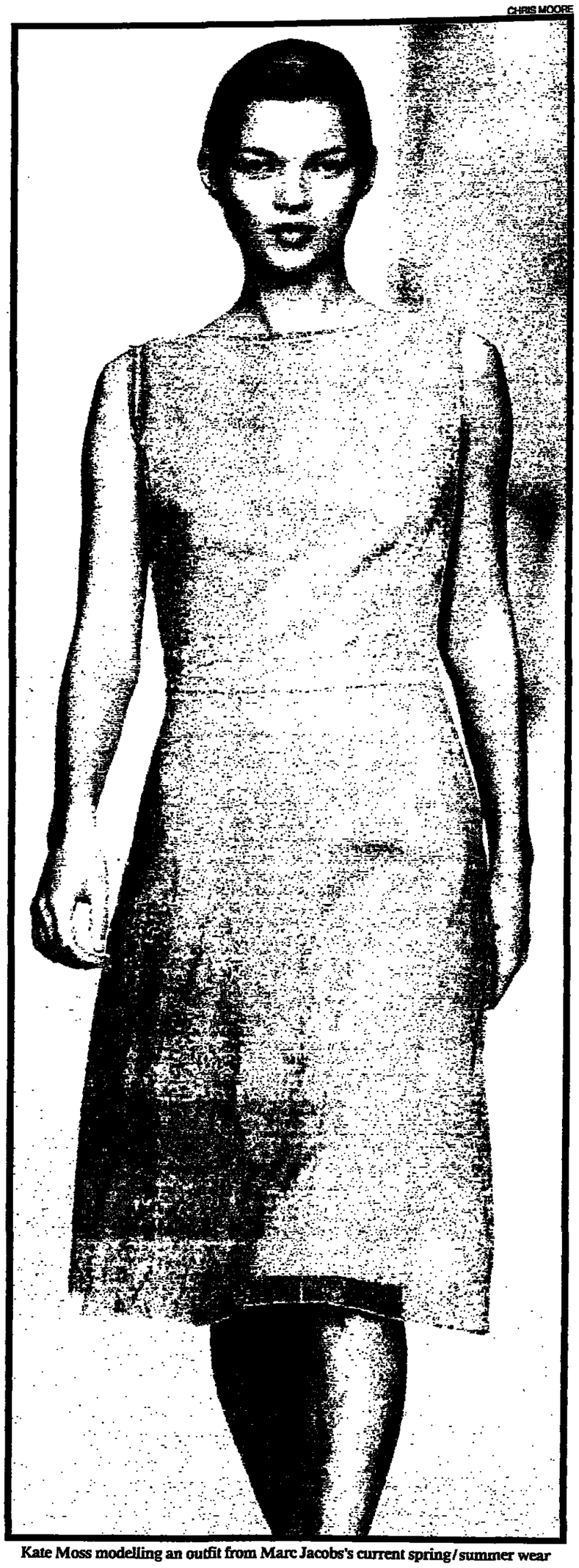
A nice bit of skirt

JACKY NAEGELEN



From Hanae Mori's forthcoming autumn/winter collection

CHRIS MOORE



Kate Moss modelling an outfit from Marc Jacobs's current spring/summer wear

CUTTING EDGE

JANE SHILLING

I think I've solved the problem of my summer wardrobe with a single purchase. The magic item is a knee-length skirt in dark blue crinkle silk crepe, lined in silk chiffon, so it hangs beautifully. It is slightly bell shaped, on an elasticated waistband — so comfortable after lunch as well as before — and, the clinching detail, all round the hem is edged with a half-inch ruffle. *Very* Chloé.

So far I have worn it with Oasis's flower-embroidered vest, a Gap hooded zip-top and plimsolls to pick up my son from school ("That's quite a nice skirt, Mum. I like the frilly bit"); with a white shirt and gold Blahnik mules to lunch with girlfriends ("Who's *that* by?" they all asked, fingering it in that gratifying way girls do); and with high heels, Jaeger's silver mesh belt and dark blue sequined top from Next to dinner with my old friend Charles, who was almost embarrassingly effusive — he slapped me heartily on the rump, as though I were a nice-looking heifer, and said: "Good lord, old girl, you look quite respectable."

I feel like giving this little skirt a round of applause every time I get it out, for not only is it pretty and comfortable and approved of by everyone who sees it, but it cost £17 — half-price in the Warehouse sale. I wish I'd bought two. Annoyingly, although there are some left, Warehouse is not reordering. (This high stock turnover, common to most big chains, is terrible news for my bank account, since every time I see something I really like I feel I have to buy it *now*, or do without forever.)

Still, there is no shortage of brilliant skirts in the shops. The summer collections had some very desirable examples in three basic shapes: knee-length and narrow, like Gucci's low-slung, fly-fronted pale pink satin, or its black tube with narrow patent straps at the hipbone; pleated, to the knee or just above (Marc Jacobs showed pearl-grey accordion pleats, Helmut Lang crisp, unstructured organza folds); and a pretty, billowing peasant look (Stella McCartney's ravishing broderie anglaise, or SportMax's milky, enveloping linen).

Of these, the most difficult to find on the high street are the pleats. This kind of precision tailoring does not translate well to the mass market. It is such a classic look that it might even be worth spending serious money on the real thing. Hermès has desperately desirable fine wool pleats from £400, Lang from £325, and if one applies to them Shirley Conran's venerable dictum of cost per wear ... thanks to its lovely classic looks and beautiful workmanship, that Hermès skirt will last for at least a decade, possibly longer. And so you will wear it at least 400 times, probably many more, and, of course, you won't have to buy a great many other less durable garments. So £400 is a positive *snip*. Ah, is that my accountant I see, waving my latest bank statement and sobbing quietly? Oh, all right then. Perhaps I'll just pop along to Peter Jones (or Harrods, or even Marks & Spencer) where there are regulation girls' pleated school uniform skirts (and girls are *huge* these days — you don't have to be Jodie Kidd to get into them) for less than £40. If grey schoolgirl pleats make you think of Lolita, it is worth searching in charity shops.

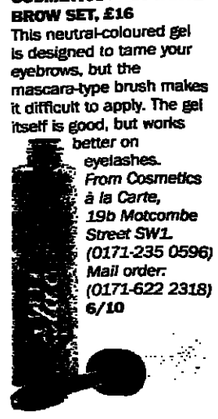
Recently, I found an ivory silk pleated skirt with a deep side slit, and a grey chiffon accordion pleated dress that are pure Marc Jacobs — both for less than £10.

There are pencil skirts in abundance on the high street (you could even make one yourself, Vogue pattern 9175). Top Shop does a dark blue side-slit cotton mix straight skirt that would be good with heels and Next's nipped-waist denim jacket. Miss Selfridge has an interesting asymmetric black jersey mini for about £17. If you long for the Gucci look, Morgan's black jersey tube skirt is £40, and Antoni & Alison, at 43 Rosebery Avenue, EC1, does an exquisite pale pink satin pencil skirt for £135. For high summer, lounging prettily in a punt or sprawling decoratively at a picnic, SportMax's floor-length, unadorned white linen, £98, would be perfect. But for less than half that price any decent antiques clothes shop has its rail of stout cotton underwear — nighties and petticoats and even voluminous cotton drawers — made to last, with double seams and properly hand-whipped button holes, foaming at wrist and neck and hem with enough broderie anglaise to make Stella McCartney grind her teeth with envy.

SIX OF THE BEST

Tame unruly eyebrows and give your face some definition with six of the best brow shapers

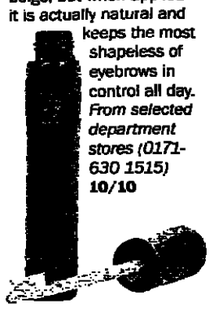
COSMETICS A LA CARTE BROW SET, £16
This neutral-coloured gel is designed to tame your eyebrows, but the mascara-type brush makes it difficult to apply. The gel itself is good, but works better on eyelashes.
From Cosmetics à la Carte, 19b Motcombe Street SW1. (0171-235 0596) Mail order: (0171-622 2318)
6/10



ALMAY BROW PENCIL, £3.50
This soft pencil comes in two shades and has a small bristled brush attached to the lid to help to create a soft eyebrow line. Goes on well, can be used lightly or heavily and good as an eyeliner, too.
From selected chemists (0171-491 5450)
8/10



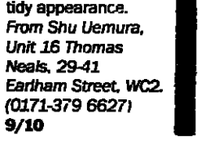
SHISEIDO EYEBROW SHAPELINER, £14.50
Sleekly packaged like a mascara bottle and with a fine comb. The gel looks beige, but when applied it is actually natural and keeps the most shapeless of eyebrows in control all day.
From selected department stores (0171-630 1515)
10/10



SHU UEMURA EYEBROW LINER, £17
Double-ended eyebrow pencil and brush. The pencil helps to define eyebrows and, although the brush is a little hard, it smooths the pencil's lines and gives eyebrows a tidy appearance.
From Shu Uemura, Unit 16 Thomas Neals, 29-41 Earlham Street, WC2. (0171-379 6627)
9/10



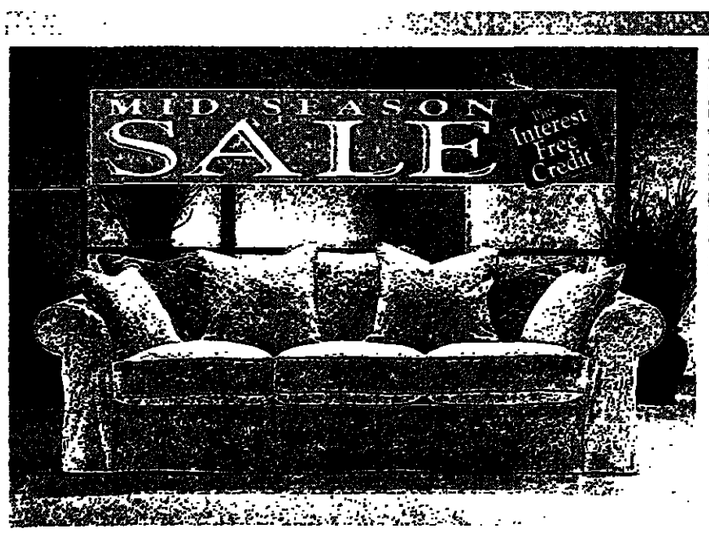
FACE STOCKHOLM BRUSH, £15 AND SHADOW, £12
The brush and shadow come separately, but more importantly you can choose the perfect match for your eyebrow colouring. The brush is angled and compact and the shadow doubles as an eyeshadow.
Liberty, Regent Street, London (0171-734 1234)
9/10



TRUCCO HI BROW TRIO, £26.50
The compact contains a choice of three shades of fine brown powder and a dainty chiselled brush. Very easy to apply and forgiving to a slightly shaky hand. Particularly good as a soft eyeliner.
(01222 228 688)
10/10



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MAN ON TOP

JOE JOSEPH

Hang on while I rub some cheese under my armpit

Man has done many stupid things in his time (I'm not just thinking of David Mellor here), but we all know that human beings would never be so dumb as to go into a field, rub soil behind their ears and make themselves smell of dirt. They will actually be much dumber than that: they will *pay somebody else* to make *them* smell of dirt. The most fashionable and expensive way to do this is by buying a bottle of Dirt Cologne. This new American scent, which has just arrived in London, is at the vanguard of a fresh and exciting concept in personal fragrance that seeks to bewitch passing strangers into thinking — without their fully understanding why — that you are demented.

And in case you were thinking that Dirt was ploughing a lonely furrow, you should know that perfumiers elsewhere are also enthusiastically embracing this new trend. From Paris comes this year's smell from the L'Artisan Parfumeur company called Méchant Loup (Big Bad Wolf), which evokes the dank mustiness of a forest. Shortly on show in Portugal will be Navegar, which its maker says smells "like black pepper and the wet wood of a ship's hold". If seven was the last age at which you felt able to get away with coming in from the garden smelling as if you had just spent three hours rolling in rabbit poop without your mother shrieking at you, think of Dirt and Navegar as a sort of second wind.

You can tell that this new fashion is hot, because it's moving so fast it has caught the less modish crowd completely off-guard, the way that rushing lava overran the slow-footed at Pompeii. So you can only pity Peter Chown, who has spent the past six months trying to invent a way to remove the stench from his grandsons' trainers. His breakthrough was announced this week — at the very moment that Sneaker Scent could turn out to be the smell sensation of the summer. What Chown has done is insert a slow-release deodorant into the heel cavity. But the intrinsic appeal of training-shoe odour, like many of nature's secrets, is something we have all sensed instinctively, without ever quite realising why — just as our reflex to suck a wound helps to clot the blood.

This mysterious magnetism of training-shoe odour explains why changing rooms in gyms and swimming pools always contain lockers in which we can safely store our trainers. We might leave our £2,000 laptops unattended on the luggage rack while we get a coffee from the buffet car, but we have always known in our water that it would be wrong to allow strangers the chance to steal our distinctive training-shoe odour from under our noses. It would be like stealing Iago's good name.

One bonus of this new craze — apart from the fact that several public lavatories in Greece have become the height of fashion, unwittingly exuding the aroma that everyone is suddenly striving for — is, of course, cost. If caught on the hop, you can now just improvise (First Lunatic: "You smell really fashionable." Second Lunatic: "Actually, I'd just run out of my usual scent, so I made do by rubbing gorgonzola under my armpits and getting our dog to lick me behind the ears. Luckily, Bunter's suffering from an acute gastric ailment at the moment, so his saliva's got a lovely tang to it").

It's the dogs I feel most sorry for, actually. Dogs have an acute sense of smell. They have 290 million more smelling cells than people, which explains a lot. It certainly explains why dogs are so stupid: they just don't have spare room in their bodies for more brain cells. To accommodate more brain cells, they would have to drag them behind them, like a caravan trailer. But soon you'll see dogs padding around an urban shopping mall and suddenly yelping as they catch a sniff of Hungry Wolf on the Prowl or Lion's Wee.

Doctors won't be thrilled either because, according to research by Warwick University published in *Measurement Science and Technology*, the medical profession is making startling headway in diagnosing diseases by the smell of patients' breath. So don't be surprised if you're walking down the street, gently emitting, say, your new Burnt Hovis Scent and a passing doctor bundles you into an ambulance and rushes you to hospital. You see, what the new perfumiers may not have realised is that the smell of freshly baked brown bread is now recognised among doctors — honestly! — as a giveaway sign of typhoid fever.

Of course, as with any fashion, there will always be those who need extra guidance to ensure that they don't make complete fools of themselves. Such people should remember that novelty is always attractive in a fragrance, but that smelling of giraffe sweat is not novel, merely oppressive. Also, while we are all now striving for a bouquet that smells natural and earthy, if you should find yourself being pursued by hedgehogs all desperate to hibernate in your armpits, ask yourself whether your new fragrance is perhaps that little bit too natural and earthy. Finally, always dab on your chosen balm daily: allowing fungi to spore freely behind your ears is not a time-saving way of avoiding applying fresh scent every day — it's a health hazard.

PETER NICHOLLS



Heaven is another cigarette, soap on the telly and chips

Beryl Bainbridge puts herself through hell to write, but she relishes every minute of it. Interview by **Noreen Taylor**

Eternal Bohemian: "I can only write about the past. It's the only language I understand. I have this theory that I was at my best at 14. Maybe we all are"

I was warned in advance about Beryl Bainbridge. Terrific, hugely talented novelist, but totally barking, wildly eccentric, off the wall. And you should see the house. A mess, dear, a fright. So let me immediately put the record straight. I found her charming, wise and very honest. Her critics are, so to speak, barking up the wrong tree.

Eccentric? OK, so the North London terraced house looks like the bargain basement of a 1950s flea market, but that was terribly cutting edge among postwar Bohemians. She just hasn't changed houses or decor since. Her housemates — a lifesized buffalo behind the front door and the statues of St Patrick, St Teresa and St Antony — can be viewed as early Post-Modern irony.

As for Beryl the writer, she's hot right now. *Every Man For Himself*, a recreation of four days on the *Titanic* before it sank, has become an international bestseller. Endearingly, she says she thinks it is selling because everyone assumes that it is the book of the film.

Now *Master Georgie*, her eighteenth book, has just been launched. "You've read it?"

"Of course I have."

"How many times?"

"Once."

"Oh, you have to read it more than once. Most people have to read it at least three times before they understand it."

The novel is set in the mid-19th century, during the Crimean War. It unfolds through the narratives of three characters whose destinies are linked through a past incident. It is multi-layered, though written in the crisp, stylish prose that has placed Beryl on three Booker shortlists and won her two Whitbread prizes.

"I'd always written about my life and my background, and then I ran out of ideas. So my publisher offered one of these three-book deals, and asked what I'd like to write about. Off the top of my head, I trotted out Scott of the Antarctic, the *Titanic* and the Crimea. I have always loved history and anyway I cannot make anything up. I mean why bother when life is so extraordinary," says Beryl, a slim, neat figure in black, with her black, straight, fringed hairstyle still faithful to some long-ago Beat image, probably Juliette Greco, whom she resembled when young.

She was born in Liverpool in 1934, joined the Liverpool Playhouse as an actress at 16, and four years later married a painter, Austin Davies. They had two children before the marriage ended. Her third child is from a relationship with the writer Alan Sharp.

After years of stretching frugal earnings, hers must be a rather comfortable life. Since her writing career began in 1968, three of her books have been made into films, and sales have finally brought in enough money for her to splash out, to shop and indulge herself.

"I hate money. Think it's disgusting, which is why I wrote my novel *Filthy Lucre*. I don't agree with pensions and investments. All these people pestering me to invest in their banks makes me sick. Give it away, that's my theory. Every time I have, it has always come back double.

"You see, during those years when my children were young I never actually felt poor. Aussie lived in the basement and gave me £7 a week. You could buy one of those lovely little shift dresses then for £2. Markets round here were wonderful for junk, which is where everything you see in this house came from. I didn't want for anything.

About every five days, I'll have a bath and scrape the egg off my nightgown

"On Fridays, if I ran out, I had this arrangement with the woman across the road who would loan me 30 shillings till Monday. If the telephone or electricity were about to be cut off, I'd just write a nice letter, explaining I'd pay them back five shillings a week. It always worked. Mind you, to this day, I don't eat fruit. Fruit was for the children so I've just never bothered."

Her earliest books were inspired by her parents and her childhood, while marriage, men and children remained private territory. "That's probably because children and marriage were the present, and I can only write about the past. It's the only language I understand. I have this theory that I was at my best at 14. Maybe we all are, when we're blank sheets of paper soaking up every experience. Music, love, life... everything is so strong then. That's what nostalgia is about. The recapturing of memories. Nothing can ever hit you the way it did then.

"At 16 I fell madly in love with Aussie. He had had a worse childhood than mine — both his parents committed suicide — and he wanted me to stay in the theatre. But I wanted babies.

"I adored him, the love of my life. For eight years after we split, I could not walk down a street I had walked along with him without crying.

"He's in his seventies now, married again and living in New Zealand. He came back here last year to see the children, stayed in the basement and all we did was argue about whose turn it was to buy the toothpaste.

"So sad. I kept asking myself what happened to all that passion and anger, that drama that was our lives.

"I've been without a man so long now I can't imagine living with anyone. Marriage is very difficult if you're a woman and a writer. No wonder Virginia Woolf committed suicide. Can you imagine me with a husband? 'Sorry darling, can't come to bed tonight. I'll be upstairs writing.'"

During her writing phases, which last about four months (she can't understand anyone needing to spend more than a year on a novel), Beryl reprogrammes her life. Days and nights are spent in a state of intensity, so physically destructive that she would be wrecked if they took longer.

"June first is the day I'll start my next book," she says, dashing to the kitchen to light another cigarette from a gas ring.

"I'll get up about eight, wander around, sit and think. The first paragraph is always the worst. Finish about 3.30. Come down, sleep on the sofa, watch a soap, send out for a bag of chips, maybe fry an egg. Back upstairs at 9.30, work till 3.30. Then back on the sofa, set the alarm for 6am.

"Sometimes, if I'm stuck, I'll drink a cup of whisky on an empty stomach. When I read it, usually before slipping on to the floor, I'll find that most of it is garbage, except there's always something. A lead that breaks the deadlock. I don't go out, don't change out of my nightgown, don't wash. About every five days, I'll have a bath and scrape the dried egg off my nightgown."

Giggling and wrapping her arms around herself in delight, she anticipates the gruesome months ahead with a look approaching relish. They are, you feel, Beryl's indulgence, her secret time when she can pad around, eschew tiresome social civilities and consecrate herself before the altar of creativity. "Couldn't do that with some man sitting around."

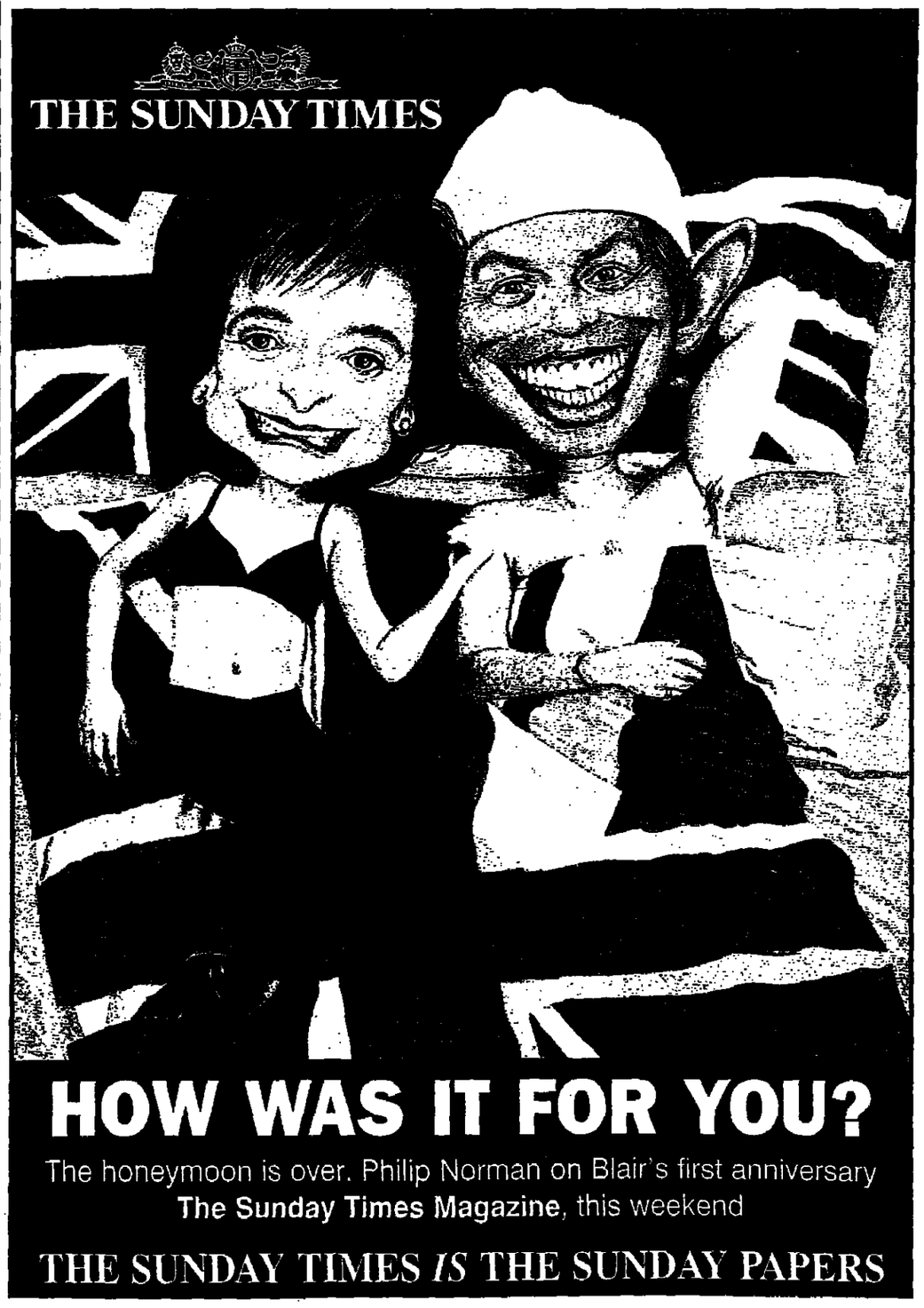
Indeed not. Her children and her six grandchildren, their blown-up pictures staring from the walls, are the great loves of her life now. All her anecdotes stem from them. Her cupboards are packed with toys, awaiting their arrival. They must be proud of her?

"They don't say much. Whenever I'm pleased about a review and ask if they've read it they usually say no. I don't think they approve of me. All of them have rebelled against the way I was. One's an architect, one's a midwife. Rudi was an actress but she has given that up for painting. She thought acting was rubbish.

"They're not that rebellious any more. In fact, I've begun to notice that their houses are beginning to look like mine. Walls are getting darker and they have started to collect old things. They have these silly stories about me they insist are true, like me sending them to school on harvest day with jam sandwiches wrapped in newspaper. I'm sure I didn't do that.

"Still, I am happiest when everything's all right with their lives. Lying there on the sofa, bag of chips, pack of cigarettes, and a good soap on the telly. My idea of heaven."

● *Master Georgie is published by Duckworth at £14.99*



Nudging between row and kowtow

Cook is shaping a gentler foreign policy, argues **John Lloyd**

Henry Kissinger, that voice which dominated the conduct of postwar foreign affairs, believed that the British had not so much lost an Empire as lost their marbles. His book, *Diplomacy*, a combined history of the art he practised and statement of the principle in which he believed, was a long defence of realpolitik combined with an elegant scorn for anything that smacked of ethics in foreign policy.

The British, who had practised reapolitik admirably in the 19th century, lost the knack of it in the 20th century — most of that century being, in Kissinger's view, a history of confused principles and inadequate practice. For realpolitikers such as him all discussion and writing of ethics in foreign policy are a waste of breath and trees: countries do, and should, act according to self-interest.

This is the diplomatic equivalent of the neo-liberal posture in economic matters which holds that firms should concentrate on profits and let the ethics and social effects take care of themselves. As Peter Jacobi, the president of Levi Strauss, said recently when he decided to manufacture in China: "We are not in the human rights business."

The Kissinger doctrine, that diplomacy is not in the human rights business either, accords well with a popular commonsense view that the world is a dangerous place full of foreigners of whom we must beware.

Robin Cook set out to challenge this by proposing an ethical dimension to foreign policy. For a year now, he has moved as jauntily as he could between the despairing pessimism of a Left — which sees a world composed largely of authoritarian torturers to whom Britain toadies in order to get arms orders — and the pessimism of the Right. The latter sees diplomacy as a tool for keeping our patch of the darkling plain relatively decent through a credible threat of force. Mr Cook claimed this week to have found a "third way" between them — between, as he glibly put it, "row and kowtow".

Implicit in his words is a critique of the previous Government for doing both. Both the Thatcher and the Major Governments were vigorous in their pursuit of arms sales. An Oxfam report, published yesterday, says that both Governments "appeared willing to allow businessmen to go to jail to hide the extent to which it was breaking its own rules and to use taxpayers' money to underwrite enormous arms deals through Export Credit Guarantees while cynically misleading Parliament and the public about the extent of the UK's involvement in the arms trade". This is the kowtow side.

But these Governments also had rows. Mr Cook, launching his first human rights report on Tuesday, said that he would not "trumpet condemnation through a megaphone". This might stand as an untrumpeted condemnation of the conduct of Chris Patten while Governor of Hong Kong, and his use of governorship as a bully pulpit to preach against the authoritarianism of a China about to inherit the colony. Asked about the privileged position given to China in the report's list of achievements, Mr Cook said that "it is a country where we are making progress through dialogue". He mentioned the release of the dissident, Wang Dan, as evidence of that dialogue's success.

Is this a "third way" where one neither picks the fights which one's power allows nor genuflects before the rich and powerful because one is weak or avid for exports, or both? Or is it a "third way" where one operates in a terrain of "soft power", in which all actors are careful not to maximise their position in order to accommodate others, especially the weaker powers? Or is it a way where, bit by bit and behind the scenes, one encourages the green shoots of civil society and gently spreads the view that political leadership's first task is to protect the life, freedom and unfettered expression of its citizens?

Left and Right say "a third way" is impossible, or at best certainly not achievable by a Government which has barely dented arms sales, toppled no dictators, arrested only a tiny handful of war criminals and kowtows still to unpleasant and bloody leaders who always find money for palaces and guns. But they are wrong.

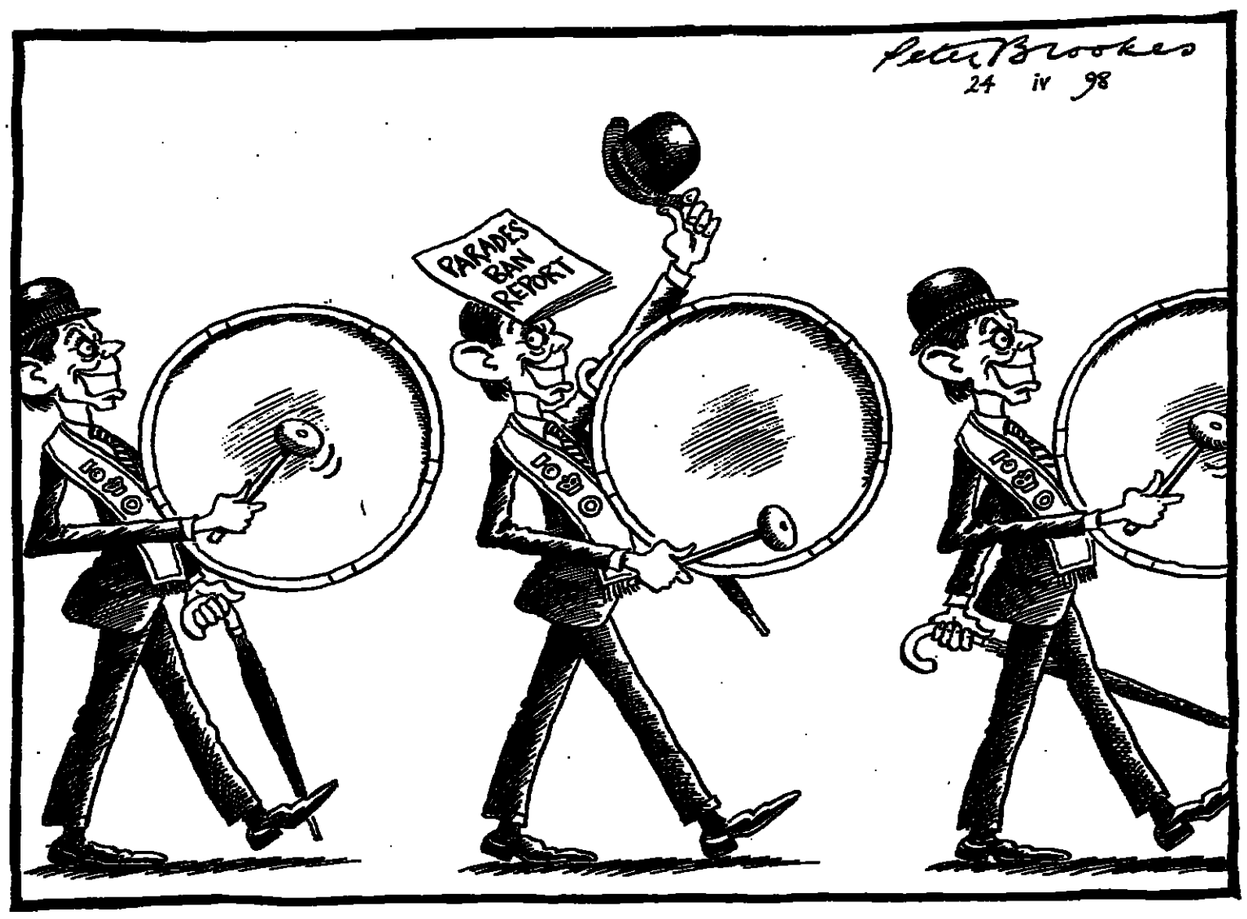
Both Left and Right say a 'third way' is impossible

They are wrong not because Mr Cook's human rights achievements are any more than modest but because a new principle is developing which begins to nudge realpolitik aside. It is a principle which seeks to dethrone principle; to privilege the privatisation of ideology so that those who believe in a fundamentalist vision must do so in their own time, without disturbing the peace and security of others. (The settlement in Northern Ireland may — if it holds — stand as an exemplar of this.) It is a principle of living with diversity, even when that means living with a great deal of nonsense.

I say "nudge aside" not replace. Realpolitik still rules much of the time. Mr Cook, after all, clothed himself in it earlier this year when he took a leading role in warning President Saddam Hussein that Britain and the United States could blow his arsenals to bits if he did not co-operate. Binyamin Netanyahu in his row with Mr Cook argued that an Israel which goes soft is an Israel which goes.

But the possibility exists of softening down power; of developing a routine of negotiation and accommodation; of replacing order with process. A third way? Not yet; but it is the dim outlines of one, as more and more feet tread it and form a path, trusting it to take them where they wish to go and will be secure.

John Lloyd is associate editor of the New Statesman.



Links to break the chain

Only by bonding across its borders will Northern Ireland's political isolation end

Matthew Parris

Orange marches are back to haunt us and the English sigh, reach for our television remote controls, banish the news, and wonder why these people will insist on wearying us with their tribalisms. For Pete's sake, what are these marches all *about*?

Watching TV pictures of the Apprentice Boys marching down the Garvachy Road last week, my mind wandered from the politics. I reflected instead on what time and elbow-grease, what *work* it must take, to be a proper Orangeman. All that drill, those tricky-to-play tin whistles, that marvellous boot polish, those fussy uniforms. These people are not rich. Their leisure is not unlimited. Bowler hats do not come cheap. When do they find the time to rehearse, I wondered? In the rain and dark, after work and school? Every Saturday, for months? And many of them quite young. Why so grim, their leisure?

As a child I was persuaded to join the paramilitary wing of the Non-conformist Church, the Boys' Brigade. My Bible-knowledge was good, my drill pathetic, my sash never whited and my uniform a mess. Even then this was not cutting edge. BB was already uncool.

Today's young do not, for the most part, learn to march. They play on Nintendo64, or go to music lessons, dance sessions or on group holidays and expeditions. They congregate in laser-strobed clubs. They support Greenpeace or Man U Supporters' Club. Who in London, or Manchester, or Derbyshire, would detach himself from his personal stereo to learn marching in a silly hat and sash?

Nor would their dads. It reeks too much of National Service and allotments. DIY, Ikea, food, TV and football might win dad's leisure hours; communal singing and political marching is something his grandfather liked. When dad was young he might have joined the Young Conservatives or Young Socialists — for fun as well as out of commitment; but he would not expect his sons and daughters to be remotely interested. Leisure has moved on. Anywhere in the UK but Ulster, the Orange Orders would be dying, the last straggling marchers worthy of articles in a magazine-section travel piece. Orangemen might qualify for a lottery grant, along with morris dancers. The term Orange would invite that lethal injection of a sobriquet: "heritage". The movement would be, in the lingo of the era, sad.

In Ulster it is not sad: it is angry. With cause, no doubt, for the IRA is real, the terror is real. But the terror has paused. We can ask what, beyond terror, gives shape and content to Ulster Unionism.

The essence of Unionism was always more than opposition to the IRA. Nor is it a reasoned desire to remain linked to friends and family over the water. Unionism's great lie is that Ulster Protestants are simply, and at root, British. They are not. They are far from the mainstream, fear it, and dread the day when the overwhelming majority British view — that Ireland might as well be united — prevails.

Unionism has lived on because partition in 1922 preserved Northern Ireland in social and economic aspic. Ulster was Other and relied upon another Other, the South, for its Otherness. Unionists haven't sunk into the confident middle-class apathy which finds bowler hats *déclassé*. Hypermarkets are new in Portadown; Habitat has not made it to Belfast; Sir Terence Conran has no plans for a lime-washed restaurant-delicatessen in Derry. Yet. Northern Ireland has been cut off.

But the Good Friday agreement, whether it sticks or not, starts a process infinitely more important than the "peace" process: the game of catching-up. Vacuum-packed Unionism is letting in air. The Other so vital to Orangemen who found their own weight by pushing against it, leaches as the border blurs.

Southern Ireland used to be as Ian Paisley and Orange folk-memory still conceive it: a tinpot place for Father Teds; land of hot Catholicism, poverty, land-hunger and decline. With Harland & Woolf and Shorts Brothers, the North was better, richer, more civilised, worth defending. They didn't build the *QE2* in the Republic.

But that Eire is vanishing. Dublin is a smart destination for Londoners on stag-nights. Apple Computer moved in a decade ago, and has been joined by the massed cavalry of the information age, the banking call-centre and the mail-order distribution hub. Irish Catholicism withers, divorce is legal and the Christian Brothers are in court for child abuse. Mary Robinson has been President, British newspapers sell out before their Irish counterparts and the Government even gives tax breaks to artists. The Irish punt is worth more than our pound, and Southern Ireland will meet the Maastricht criteria with no sweat.

In short, Southern Ireland is the sort of place you or I might move to. The North, richer because force-fed by British subvention and an overpaid Civil Service which leaches talent and enterprise from Ulster, is not. It does not *feel* richer. Some say the South is an economic puffball. Puffball or hardball, it doesn't look like imploding and it's a grand place to be. Intercourse with so strong a neighbour is perfectly inevitable.

David Trimble knows this. He has an impressive list of reasons why Good Friday strengthens the Union but in his heart he knows that's nonsense. Only in the most sinuous form can the Union hold.

People talk of the "sectarian divide" in Ireland, but it was physical. In the Twenties, after the border was yanked across natural lines of communication, partition really meant partition. The Second World War divided the island further. Finally all but one cross-border railway was closed. The British Army blew up and blocked lanes between countries. People stopped crossing. All this is now thrown into reverse. Links are returning; dams are breached.

Think what the euro may do to Ireland. The Ulster Unionist Party boasts that the agreement does not establish a cross-border economic body. But after EMU there is hardly need for one. A shopping trolley is the best vehicle for cross-border economic policy-convergence.

The Stormont deal has been carefully threaded, with three strands. Strand one, establishing an assembly, is what the Unionists want; strand two, setting up a North-South ministerial council, cheers up nationalists. And strand three, the British-Irish council, helped to silence David Trimble's footsoldiers. The strands are interwoven, but not all connect with the future.

The assembly will not recreate the Protestant baronies of the past; the accord's terms entrench nationalist participation: in effect a veto. The deal promises "resolute action to promote the language". More Irish TV, north of the border. Gaelic in Belfast! Tourists will like that.

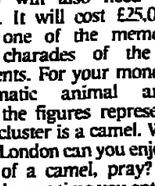
The assembly will first establish the North-South ministerial council. Charged with building co-operation, this has the right to extend tentacles into "agriculture, education, transport, environment, waterways, social security and social welfare, tourism, EU programmes, inland fisheries and aquaculture, health, urban and rural development," and other areas: a ragbag of responsibilities.

Or perhaps seedbed is a better term. For political institutions grow or wither organically. It is pretty obvious which parts of the Stormont agreement will find nourishment — those with a sensible cross-border role. No prizes, either, for guessing which will not, the Queen of Quangos, the council of the isles. To recruit Cardiff, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to the bolstering of the Unionist cause sounds ominous. The British-Irish council will meet infrequently. One task will be "to consider transport links". A Stena Line talking-shop?

And what underwrites this agreement is not captured by the communiqué or the mechanisms it foreshadows. The cultural abnormality that is Unionism is dissolving. A world is coming where a young Ulsterman's ideas for Saturday will not include stamping the bare floorboards of a damp hall, on Orange drill practice. His island will be rather fashionable among young Europeans. Nearby Dublin will be cool. Derry will be happening.

Not least among the ironies of the Good Friday accord is the centrality of the promise that "the Union" cannot be "broken" except by consent of "the people of the Province". Those three terms will lose meaning. Old soldiers die, but old unions never do: they just fade away.

Philip Howard



■ Your chance to chip in for a chunk of posterity

How do you feel about adopting a statue? You can already adopt an animal (or if you are a cheapskate, a fish) at the zoo, a cliché or a hairstyle. Now, as the patched-up Albert Memorial starts to emerge from the most familiar tin condom in London, English Heritage is inviting us to adopt one of the memorial's statues. For a contribution.

Only the well-heeled and discreet of us. The Albert Memorial is a cornucopia of statuary. It piles up more figures in bas-relief or the round, gilded or weatherbeaten, than a prudent flesh-and-blood would shake a mallet at. It is a public disgrace that the memorial has been shrouded in scaffolding for so long that the youngest generation has no idea what it looks like. So private money is being invited to provide the £250,000 needed to finish the restoration. A party for the first public-spirited suckers to adopt a public statue is being held at the memorial next Wednesday. They will still be able to be hoisted right to the top of the memorial in the builders' lift.

They will also need to be loaded. It will cost £25,000 to adopt one of the memorial's stone charades of the four continents. For your money the emblematic animal around which the figures representing Africa cluster is a camel. Where else in London can you enjoy the statue of a camel, pray? Look upwards next time you enter the National Gallery, stranger. There is another fine camel in Victoria Embankment Gardens. Albert's industries cost £12,500, the lower sciences £5,000 and upper sciences £2,500 each. You can adopt one of the 169 poets, musicians, painters and architects on the Parnassus Frieze for £1,000: a chip at the price.

The brochure offering this bargain is glossy enough for its subject. It contains a fulsome puff for the chairman of English Heritage. And the robust retired headmaster in charge of flogging statues writes: "I have become a great admirer of Prince Albert, who did so much for this country before his untimely death in 1861. Indeed I wonder how differently the country would have developed if he had not died so prematurely." Indeed. I wonder how so many of his pupils managed to get themselves elected as King's Scholars to Eton. But perhaps he was in charge of the flogging not the history at his school.

Although I pass the Albert Memorial every dawn on the Jack Russell walk, I also pass on the opportunity to adopt a bit of it. Other statues need me more. Jenner in the paved garden at the end of Long Water, Kensington Gardens, needs vaccination against pigeon droppings. He is the most avianly disadvantaged statue in town. His slouch provides such a broad perch. I act as guide to Peter Pan for Japanese tourists with their movie cameras cocked before sunrise. Every morning I remove the cigarette butt that some slave has inserted between the fingers of the bronze of Trajan at Tower Hill Underground station, the lager cans from his shoulder and the hamburger packet from his head. Although Trajan never endured the Circle Line to Tower Hill, he was a tough Emperor. The ritual acclamation of the Senate to a new emperor ran: "May you be luckier than Augustus and better than Trajan." I have tried to adopt the "Amphitheatre" in St Katharine's Dock on the ground that it is only a quarter of an amphitheatre. But neither its custodian nor management is interested in such pettifoggery.

Whose is the only bronze holding hat and umbrella in his right hand? Sir Sydney Waterlow, generous stationer and Lord Mayor, and Syd doffs his bronze hat twice: once in his park at Highgate and again outside Westminster City School. Public statues are ornaments of our cities, the equivalent for townies of the familiar oak tree on the village green for rustics.

Nobody can adopt them, because they belong to us all. Statues rouse irrational emotion. When it was suggested to Victoria at the time of her Diamond Jubilee that the statue of Queen Anne should be moved from outside St Paul's, she replied: "Move Queen Anne! Most certainly not! Why it might some day be suggested that *my* statue should be moved, which I should much dislike." Public works of art are fine. But e. e. cummings got it right:

a pretty girl who naked is
is worth a million statues

Cook's club

CLUBBABILITY is not an attribute often ascribed to Robin Cook; but our pop-eyed Foreign Secretary has just joined a gentleman's club. The all-male Travellers Club, a bastion of Edwardian manners in Pall Mall, has already played host to Cook at dinner. It is normally the haunt of spooks, effete barristers and thirsty foreign correspondents, and Cook certainly stands out in the club's basement bar. Still, as the new squire of Chevening, a regular at Guildhall dinners with a pouting new wife, and now a dedicated traveller, the lad from Livingston will no doubt learn to appreciate life in St James's. He was signed up at the same time as Raymond Seitz, the former American Ambassador to London, to join Terry Waite and Lord Hurd of Westwell. The brooding Monsignor Alfred Gilbey lived in the club until just before his death.

Cook rarely enjoys the society of his current club, Loganlea Miners' Club, Addiewell. Andrew Roth, chronicler of parliamentarians' foibles, described the Foreign Secretary as the antithesis of a club man: "He is very much a loner, an arrogant intellectual." But A. N. Wilson, the writer (pictured left) says the club will suit Cook. "The convention is that if you meet your best friend in the smoking room, you ignore him until he acknowledges you. Nobody will speak to him for ten years." Members wonder whether a peg will be reserved for Cook to hang up his anorak and cap.



● *MO MOWLAM on the hazards of dressing for dinner: "I did my best. I got out my smart black trousers, green top, and handbag. A guest came up to me in a lounge suit and said, 'I'm so glad you also didn't realise it was formal dress'."*

Wonk wonder

WHY has Geoff Mulgan, a member of Tony Blair's No 10 policy unit, attended a seminar which discussed the rebranding of the Conservative Party? And why was the meeting held at Demos, the intellectual power behind new Labour? The meeting, also graced by foetal policy wonks such as Mark Leonard and Perri Six, charged itself with the grand purpose of "laying out a vision of new Conservatism". Demos insists that there is no conflict of interest. And Mulgan says: "The Tories are very important to us. Don't get aligned. That's what stops thinking." So what tips did Demos give the Tories? "Where would you begin?" asks another. What would Blair say of Mulgan's presence? "Oh, I just dropped in and they were talking about something else at the time."

● *I AM pleased to report that not an inch of the Lord Chancellor's migraine-inducing wallpaper has gone to waste. Pugin enthusiasts among Lord Irvine of Lairg's staff have apparently rescued offcuts from the rolls (£300 each) and framed them as a personal memento of the fiasco. "Its a marvellous souvenir," said one big wig.*

Fresh part?

NOW the drama queens at Equity really have something to scream about. Michael Cashman, actor and homosexual rights campaigner (pictured), is to quit as treasurer — a blow as he has a reputation for being a confirmed penny-pincher. Cashman declares that he wants to concentrate on his political career (whatever that might be). In particular, he has ambitions to be a Labour MEP. "It's something I have long held as a passion," he says. This certainly represents a change of heart. He recently said of Blair's first year. "I am feeling saddened and rather bemused. Many of us had hoped for better. Nobody can ever take our support for granted."



● *BIG trouble in the Tory playpen where William Hague has parted company with the services of Mark Fox, an adviser in his private office. "He has decided to move on to another job," says one of Hague's baby helpers. "Mark helped occasionally with articles." Insiders say Fox's abrasive demeanour didn't sit well with Hague's laid-back approach. "There isn't universal grief," reports a loyal colleague.*

Heart's home

GWYNETH PALTROW, the swan-like American starlet (pictured), has decided her future lies in Britain. Gwyneth turned her back on Hollywood spectaculars such as *Titanic*, and says she would rather remain here to make art-house movies. "The British just really know how to do great women's roles," says Miss Paltrow, whose Anglophilia may owe something to her co-star, Joseph Fiennes, the hotly-tipped younger brother of Ralph: "He's intense and beautiful. I'm excited." She enjoys nocturnal relations with Joseph in her next project, *Shakespeare In Love*, the tale of the Bard's romantic assignations penned by Sir Tom Stoppard. Kate Winslet, Paltrow's main rival for the plum Brit roles, gets Brownie points for standing up to *Titanic*'s dictatorial director: "I have so much respect for Kate for getting through that and saying only one bad thing about Jim Cameron."



JASPER GERARD

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Philip Howard



our chance to in for a chunk sterity

ow do you feel about adopting a statue? You can already adopt an or if you are a cheap a fish at the zoo, a cliche hairstyle. Now, as the d-up Albert Memorial to emerge from the mou ar tin condom in London h Heritage is inviting us pt one of the memorial's s. For a contribution y the well-heeled and di- us The Albert Memorial ornaments of statuary. It up more figure in bas or the round gilded or ornaments than a prudent and-blood would take a t at. It is a public disgrace the memorial has been ded in recent years for so that the original scheme ras not carried out. If it look: So perhaps it is better a [illegible] 25000

TIMES PAST — THE TIMES — FUTURE

OUT OF TUNE

Unchristian discord at Westminster Abbey

Addressing the congregation at last month's thanksgiving service for Sir Georg Solti, the Dean of Westminster, Dr Wesley Carr, spoke of music as "the one language that transcends the limitations of culture and learning". It is also, he might have added, the aesthetic element that, along with great architecture, draws people into churches, turns their hearts to God and, even to the non-religious, sings of the spiritual hunger that lifts the human imagination. Today at Westminster Abbey, "the note is crack'd" by the pettiness of a dispute that should never have led the dean and chapter to dismiss the distinguished Dr Martin Neary as Organist and Master of the Choristers.

The proximate cause, which Dr Carr refused to disclose during the hearings that preceded this ill-judged decision, is the setting up in 1997 by Dr Neary and his wife of a company, Neary Music, to manage the choir's concert engagements, tours and recording contracts — each of which was formally approved by the dean and chapter. They apparently were, however, ignorant of Dr Neary's initiative until it was noticed by the auditors. Dr Carr concedes that any financial element in this dispute is a "question of a few pounds"; yet he insists that the Nearys are guilty of a "breach of trust" amounting to gross misconduct.

To suggest dishonesty in this austere president of the Royal College of Organists is an act of exaggeration so dramatic as to suggest a broader agenda. This affair has more to do with the power struggle between the clerical and musical sides of great cathedrals than with the minutiae of abbey accounts. Dr Carr's record in church politics is that of a zealous but abrasive moderniser determined to establish his executive authority; and in these hermetic hierarchies, where principles and passions collide, deans and organists have ever been rivals.

Ecclesiastical music, always a glory of the English Church, has undergone a popular renaissance in recent years. This has done much for the finances of the great cathedrals — and enabled them to recruit and retain the highest choral talent. But it has done little for internal harmony. Organists, proud of the drawing power of great choirs, tend to be fiercely proprietorial of their charges and their repertoires; deans agonise, in some cases excessively, over the secularisation and "commercialisation" of choral music.

The Organist of Westminster Abbey, inheritor of a title once held by Henry Purcell, is unlikely to be a wilting violet. But Dr Neary has a case that goes beyond professional pride. In this expanding market, the management of choirs in the class of Westminster Abbey or King's College, Cambridge, is no light workload. At the abbey, the key decision was taken in 1994, when the dean and chapter asked Dr Neary and his wife to assume full responsibility for all the choir's external engagements, including the signing of contracts. Mrs Neary subtracted modest "fixing fees" from the revenue. Partly to limit the Nearys' legal liability, their accountants advised him to create a limited company. Dr Neary should perhaps have told the dean, but deliberate deception seems improbable. If the dean and chapter were unhappy, they could surely have found some amicable way to restore Abbey control.

Dr Carr's methods of proceeding could hardly have been more high-handed. After a decade of highly praised service, Dr Neary and his wife were suspended overnight, causing the cancellation of the abbey's justly celebrated concert for Holy Week. Declining offers of mediation by such experienced officers of the abbey as Lord Weatherill, the former Speaker, the dean ordered the investigation, conducted the disciplinary hearing on Maundy Thursday, relayed the findings to the chapter and, as *primus inter pares*, won their assent to dismissal.

Dr Carr has acted within his rights. Because the abbey is a Royal Peculiar under the direct jurisdiction of the Queen, no cleric has a chairman's power to intervene. But he has acted neither with Christian humility, nor in the interest of the Church's already wretched reputation for handling disputes. The Abbey has problems enough without this poisoning of the air. Dr Neary can appeal only to the Queen. She is expected to refer the matter to the Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, who may wisely see no obstacle to Dr Neary's reinstatement. Dr Carr has raised dispute to the skies; Lord Irvine, like St Cecilia, the patron saint of music, must endeavour to pull an angel down.

HIDE AND NOT SEEK

France has little wish to see Karadzic captured

The fragile peace that constitutes the Bosnian political settlement will not grow stronger until the demons of a desperate past have been exorcised. The full truth must be told and full justice dispensed through the International War Crimes Tribunal. The most important suspects remain Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic. The failure to apprehend either man so far has been a source of considerable embarrassment. It now seems that the reason for this failure rests as much with Paris as Pale.

The Washington Post revealed yesterday that Anglo-American plans to snatch Dr Karadzic had been heavily compromised by the actions of a senior French military official, Major Hervé Gourmelon, who held a series of clandestine meetings with the former Serb leader throughout 1997. This persuaded Washington that Dr Karadzic was too well informed of Nato intentions and intelligence to be easily captured.

The French have conceded that Major Gourmelon had numerous contacts with Dr Karadzic. These were clearly not the result of unilateral diplomacy but were reported back to his superiors. When this relationship became "apparently questionable", according to the French Defence Ministry, the officer was redeployed to Paris. The strong suspicion must be that this line of private communication was ended abruptly only because either the United States or Britain became aware of it.

If such duplicity is disappointing, it is not surprising. From the start of the Balkan conflicts, France has played an ambiguous role. It was best symbolised by the actions of General Bernard Janvier, the then overall UN Force Commander in Bosnia. When Sarajevo suffered intense shelling from the Serbs in May 1995, General Janvier refused to authorise airstrikes because this might "invite retaliation". When the Serbs seized UN peacekeepers, the General would not sanction the use of armoured fighting vehicles because that would violate "strict peacekeeping principles". Throughout these episodes, General Janvier held secret conclaves involving General Mladic. Major Gourmelon seems to have followed a long and dishonourable tradition.

If French obstructionism has been well-established, another question becomes relevant. Why has the American press now received, via a well-directed leak, this belated information? The best explanation is that the State Department would still like to see Dr Karadzic indicted and believes that an arrest is quite feasible. This, however, would require at least the passive co-operation of the French who are the dominant outside force in the area around Pale. American must still fear that Paris continues to prefer Dr Karadzic hidden rather than in The Hague. That would be a betrayal of Bosnia. On this occasion, France must realise that *laisser faire* is not an option.

MILLENNIUM BUGS

A return to the days before antibiotics would be cruel

Against the forces of nature, science can win battles, but not wars. As fast as science progresses, nature mutates to fight back. The clearest case of this struggle is that of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. As a House of committee reminded us on Wednesday, human beings need to take robust action if they are not to become as impotent in the face of bacterial infections as they were before the advent of penicillin.

Victorian novels and memoirs are full of long-suffering invalids, death through disease and apparently obsessive preoccupation with ill-health. But the fear of illness — from the terror of "catching a chill" to the dread of consumption — was rational enough. Before antibiotics, infections had to be left to resolve themselves; and while the resolution could, eventually, be a restoration to health, it could also be a slide into serious illness and death.

Those who have grown up in the postwar antibiotic era tend to take their good health for granted. But it is they who are at least partly to blame for the rise in resistant bacteria. Patients demand antibiotics from their doctors to treat minor complaints or those, like flu, for which antibiotics are no help. Even when the drugs are appropriately prescribed, patients sometimes fail to finish the course of pills, which may relieve the symptoms but allows the bug to fight another day, strengthened against the antibiotic. There are doctors who are happy to connive, secure in the knowledge that a prescription will hasten the patient out of the surgery. They should be firmer, for overprescription is one of the main causes of resistance.

Another culprit is the use of the drugs in animals and poultry to increase their size. Human beings are then exposed to the antibiotics not so much through meat or milk, but via the antibiotic-infused muck that is spread as fertiliser on crops. The drugs are also being used in genetically engineered crops as "marker genes", a dangerous and unnecessary practice.

None of these habits will be easy to reverse, since to do so demands actions that increase the public good only at the expense of the individual. Mothers whose children have a racking cough will find it hard to put the good of the planet above the pain of their child. Farmers whose earnings are precarious will want to boost the price of their animals. Hospitals make no income from controlling infections, but must do so if these "superbugs" are not to spread.

The Department of Health yesterday responded vigorously to the Lords report. It plans to launch a campaign to teach the public the dangers of overuse of antibiotics, and to lobby the EU to control the use of the drugs in animals. Patients, doctors and farmers must be made aware of the urgency of the problem. No one wants a return to the days when lives could be destroyed by illnesses that are easily treated now.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Supermarkets and high cost of eating

From Mr Martin E. Simons

Sir, One of the causes of the extraordinarily rapid rise in the external value of sterling against continental European currencies is our significantly higher interest rates compared with those of competitor economies like Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan and the US.

Our stiff rates are influenced by stubbornly high domestic inflation and this in turn is influenced by principal supermarkets, most of which have hardly reduced prices of imported butter, cheese, bacon, biscuits and other staple foodstuffs, in spite of much lower import costs.

Home-grown vegetables like cauliflowers retail at 69p, whilst Lincolnshire farmers, offered 10p, plough in their crops which they cannot economically harvest. The BBC *Farming Today* programme has highlighted what would appear to be some super supermarket mark-ups on home-reared meat.

Food manufacturers see their prices pared down to threadbare levels and are then forced into providing discounts. Their major customers, the supermarkets, also compel them to buy from particular suppliers, from whom the supermarkets themselves take a cut.

Shareholders may wish to question the directors of some powerful retailers on the business ethics. In the meanwhile the City may care to reflect whether the economy is best served by huge upfront retail profits, unnecessarily high inflation and languishing domestic animal husbandry, whilst manufacturing is under pressure.

Yours truly,
MARTIN E. SIMONS,
24 Granard Avenue,
Putney, SW15 6HJ.
April 22.

Detention centres

From Mr C. J. Batchelor

Sir, I admire the outspoken comments by General Sir David Ramsbotham, Chief Inspector of Prisons, not only on his recent report on Campsfield House detention centre (report, April 17) but also, in the past, on the disgracefully uneven conditions in prisons in general.

The Home Secretary should be grateful that he has a Chief Inspector of Prisons who has the integrity and courage to tell the minister what he ought to hear, unpalatable as it may be, instead of what he would like to hear.

The former does cause extra work — surely Jack Straw isn't afraid of that, is he? While the latter inevitably means nothing changes.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER BATCHELOR,
144 Great Knollys Street,
Reading, Berkshire RG1 7HB.
April 17.

From the Director of the Prison Reform Trust

Sir, A central aim of the Government's planned shake-up of the system of detention for asylum-seekers and other Immigration Act detainees should be to end the use of Prison Service custody for this purpose.

Virtually every authority is agreed that prison is, by definition, an inappropriate place to detain people neither suspected nor convicted of criminal offences. Yet, in research to be published shortly, the Prison Reform Trust has found that nearly half of those detained are actually in prisons, not in separate detention centres. In February, no fewer than 28 prisons were holding detainees, albeit most of them in the two specialist establishments (Haslar on the South Coast and Rochester).

An objection in principle to the use of prisons would apply even if the actual conditions of detention were adequate. But they are not. At both Haslar and Rochester, educational opportunities for detainees have been cut back severely; indeed, at Rochester they have been stopped altogether.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN SHAW,
Director,
Prison Reform Trust,
The Old Trading House,
15 Northburgh Street, EC1V 0AH.
April 17.

Weitzman tribute

From Professor Gerald Bonner

Sir, Your moving obituary of Michael Weitzman (April 16) might serve as a paradigm of the British attitude to learning at the end of the 20th century. An outstanding scholar in two unrelated disciplines, he had to wait until he was 50 before being given a readership.

It seems that he could have made a brilliant and well remunerated career in commerce or industry, to say nothing of the Civil Service, yet he elected to pursue learning, whatever the cost.

In a generation which has been taught to regard the acquisition of money as the greatest good, he seems to me to have belonged to a minority for whom the price of wisdom is above rubies. It is they who are the real and abiding judges of the world and makers of a civilisation.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD BONNER,
7 Victoria Terrace,
Durham DH1 4RW.
April 16.

Friends rally to sacked organist

From Mr Keith Howell-Jones

Sir, To have lost one organist was a misfortune; to have lost two appears to be gross carelessness on the part of the Dean of Westminster, Dr Wesley Carr (report, April 23).

As honorary solicitor to the Royal College of Organists, of which Dr Martin Neary is the president, I am fully acquainted with his contractual position at the abbey. The knowledge which I have thus acquired enables me to conclude that his suspension and that of his wife, together with the manner of Dr Carr's investigation of the relevant allegations, have been unjust and dilatory, and that the dismissals are unfair. I am also in no personal doubt that Dr Carr rejected all attempts at conciliation to bridge any misunderstandings, and that he has treated the matter as a trial of strength.

The Nearys are right not to accept the bogus "honourable settlement" which the dean offered them, and not just let the matter lie. Dr Neary has behaved with enormous dignity, as witness his letter to the parents of the choristers expressing his hope that they will continue to give outstanding service to the abbey.

The affair does the Church of England no credit. The time has come to review legislatively the powers of deans and their ability to dismiss the distinguished musicians who occupy the lofts of our great churches, adding so much to the spirituality of the worship.

Dr Neary's contribution to the work of the abbey, and previously at Winchester Cathedral as organist, has been outstanding. It is not right that his reputation should suffer in any way as a result of Dr Carr's ministry.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH HOWELL-JONES,
Howell-Jones & Partners
(Solicitors),
75 Surbiton Road,
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey KT1 2AF.
April 23.

From Professor Sir Bryan Thwaites and others

Sir, In the light of Dr Martin Neary's dismissal, and in the belief that there is widespread sympathy and support for him and his wife, we have formed the Martin Neary Support Group. Our intention is to enable all his supporters to contribute towards the cost of Dr Neary's appeal.

We wish to express our fervent hope that Dr Neary will be reinstated on terms of trust comparable to those enjoyed by other leading cathedral organists.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN THWAITES,
CHRISTOPHER COMPSTON,
JOHN GUMMER,
RUTH RAILTON,
JOHN TAVENER,
†JOHN TAYLOR
(Bishop of Winchester, 1975-85),
ALEXANDER WEDDERSPOON
(Dean of Guildford),
Milnthorpe, Winchester SO22 4NF.
bthwaites@dial.pipex.com
April 23.

'Cool Britannia'

From Mr Andrew Calcutt

Sir, Your editorial of April 21, "Dangerously cool", overestimates the generation gap. Now that "youth culture" is itself middle-aged (40 years on from the publication of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*), it is no longer the exclusive property of young people, and its icons can be any age.

Tony Blair may be twice the age of his guests at Downing Street, but "beat" writer William Burroughs was nearly twice as old as Blair when he was invited, some five years ago, to advertise trainers and to make a recording video with Kurt Cobain of Nirvana. It is the generation gap that is outmoded, not new Labour.

Moreover, you underestimate the convergence of pop and politics. In rebranding the nation in the image of youth culture, Blair's new power generation is also recasting the relationship between the electorate and those in authority.

Never more shall we be adult, rational citizens seeking to rule the world; henceforth we, too, are repackaged as permanent adolescents, presumed to be in need of lifelong nannying. Not just empty rhetoric, the substance of "Cool Britannia" is an attack on adulthood and the valuable attributes traditionally associated with it.

The whole "Cool Britannia" business smacks of desperation. But these are desperate times, entirely lacking in wider vision; and in blind times such as these, the one-eyed man may be king (or a presidential-style prime minister) for a long time to come.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW CALCUTT
(Author, *Arrested Development: Pop Culture and the Erosion of Adulthood*, Cassell Academic, 1998),
61 Pendlestone Road, E17 9BH.
April 21.

University fees

From Professor Lord Beloff, FBA

Sir, In dealing with the problems of universities, it is essential to get the history right. Sir Graham Hills (letter, April 13) writes of the "battles for university independence" having been "first fought" in the 1980s. He is wrong: the battle was first fought in the 1970s, culminating in the foundation of what is now the University of Buckingham.

Unfortunately, while the enterprise itself was successful, despite the unremitting hostility of the Labour Government of the day, it was not followed, as had been hoped, by other universities calling into question the general system of university finance which was leading, as I had forecast in the 1960s, to ever-increasing subordination to the requirements of the State.

As a result, unless the authorities of Oxford and Cambridge can show a fighting spirit, in which in recent months they have been notoriously lacking, we may end up with Buckingham being England's only independent university, which was not what the founders had in mind.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords,
April 13.

Teaching methods

From the Head Teacher of St Catherine's RC Girls School, Bexleyheath

Sir, In his article on teaching (April 16; see also letters, April 22) Chris Woodhead mentions ironically "arcane subjects like history and English literature". When I was teaching with Margaret Murray of the CBI a few years ago, she was remarkably successful in engendering a deep knowledge and love of history through her lively, active methods in an Inner-London comprehensive school.

In English I and my colleagues were taught problem-solving through the deconstruction of difficult poems, teamwork through the carefully prepared and dramatised trials of Friar Laurence and the nurse in *Romeo and Juliet* and communication through subsequent literary essays. Many of these children went on to university.

Possibly, Mr Woodhead would have profited more from his education had he spent time learning about teamwork, problem-solving and communication instead of the aphorisms of Kennedy's *Latin Primer*.

Yours etc,
SUSAN POWELL, Head Teacher,
St Catherine's RC Girls School,
Watling Street,
Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7QJ.

Lasting marriages

From Mr F. M. M. Steiner

Sir, According to Mr A. J. McKay (letter, April 16) "stable, happy, lifelong marriages have become the exception" in our society.

This has often been said before, but constant repetition does not make it true. If it is true, as is widely suggested, that about 40 per cent of all marriages break down or may do so in the future, then a clear majority of 60 per cent do not, and the failed marriages are a minority rather than the norm.

The incidence of divorce varies widely between different occupations, groups with different interests and lifestyles and even by areas.

Mr McKay's misapprehension is widely shared and probably arises from the fact that marriages break down frequently among the more visible sections of society, for instance in politics, showbiz and the media, and even the law.

However, to the extent that national averages may be of significance, the situation is less bad than it may appear.

Yours faithfully,
F. M. M. STEINER,
5 Chapmans Lane,
Deddington,
Banbury, Oxfordshire OX15 0SU.
April 16.

Smoothly run city

From the President of the Sheffield Conservative Association

Sir, Sheffield is even more advanced than today's Interface gives us credit for. "Thole-in-the-road" shown in the picture on page 17 was filled in several years ago and now has Supertrams running across it.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HARTHMAN, President,
Sheffield Conservative Association,
42 Gisborne Road,
Sheffield S11 7HB.
April 22.

Faint praise

From Mr Jim Ward

Sir, The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, has coped with what might charitably be called equanimity with the ridicule heaped upon him by Members of Parliament, design gurus, the press and the general public because of his refurbishments. But to be praised (report, April 21; see also letter, April 22) by an interior designer from the BBC's *Changing Rooms* programme — that must really hurt.

Yours faithfully,
JIM WARD,
30 Bennett Park,
Blackheath, SE3 9RB.
April 22.

Grief after Diana's death analysed

From Dr J. M. Wober

Sir, In his essay, written soon after the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, Professor Anthony O'Hear says (report, April 17; see also letters, April 18): "I do not say people's feelings . . . were not genuine, but I think they were elevating feeling above reason".

The professor appears to me to be propelled by the very shortcoming he criticises, namely a projection from one's own feelings to an assumption about those of the general population. In this case, what is needed is good representative survey evidence, backed up with equally good analysis.

I believe there is much evidence — a colleague and I have collected some — that a substantial proportion of the public was not swayed through the drama of the Princess's life and the tragedy of her death by emotional superficialities, and remains in favour of important traditional values and institutions, including the monarchy.

Yours sincerely,
MALLORY WOBER
(Chartered psychologist),
Flat C,
17 Lancaster Grove, NW3 4EU.
wober@clara.co.uk
April 21.

From Sir Anthony Grant

Sir, Professor O'Hear is absolutely right concerning the "mob grief" over Princess Diana's funeral. It was, however, only another example of how the nation has lost its self-esteem, pride and personal responsibility.

It was entirely typical of a public that goes berserk at sporting events, behaves hysterically at trivial TV performances and substitutes mass mania for rational political debate.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY GRANT,
32 Beaufort Place, Thompsons Lane,
Cambridge CB5 8AG.
April 21.

From Mr Robin Howard

Sir, Professor O'Hear has pronounced that those mourning the death of Princess Diana "were elevating feeling above reason".

The day that feelings of love and compassion, much identified with the late Princess, are sacrificed upon the altar of rationality will sound the death knell of civilised behaviour.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN HOWARD,
New Timbers,
8 Upfield, Croydon CR0 4DP.
April 18.

From Mr R. P. Brims

Sir, If a musician is knighted for his response to Princess Diana's funeral, should not a philosopher be honoured for his?

Yours,
R. P. BRIMS,
295b Woodstock Road,
Oxford OX2 7NY.
April 17.

Junk in the post

From Mrs J. Catherine Bradshaw

Sir, Dr Georges Ware (letter, April 16) wonders what to do with a steadily increasing pile of unwanted CD-Rom discs.

We put a similarly unwanted collection to good use last December by gluing them together in pairs (printed sides together), drilling a hole near the rim, putting thread through the hole and hanging them on the church Christmas tree, where they caught the light most effectively and attractively, particularly during candle-lit services.

A friend is using her CDs to the same effect in a sensory stimulation room for children with special needs.

Yours,
CATHERINE BRADSHAW,
44 Belmont Road,
Bushey, Hertfordshire WD2 2JP.
April 16.

From Mr Simon M. Westcott

Sir, Hung by threads in the vegetable garden, unwanted CDs make effective and highly reflective bird-scarers.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON WESTCOTT,
Gomshall Cottage, Gomshall,
Guildford, Surrey GU5 9LT.
April 16.

From Susannah Gibbs

Sir, Freebie CDs lit up my family's Christmas table as candleholders.

Yours faithfully,
SUSANNAH GIBBS (age 12),
Brunswick Cottage, Church Street,
Kelvedon, Essex CO5 9AH.
April 18.

From Mr John O'Byrne

Sir, I find that CD-Rom compact discs make excellent Frisbees, and this opinion is shared by our dog, which is an expert Rom-catcher.

Yours truly,
JOHN O'BYRNE,
2 Mount Argus Court,
Harold's Cross, Dublin 6W.
obyrnejo@forbairt.ie
April 16.

Letters for publication should carry contact telephone numbers. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5046, e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 23: The Queen this afternoon toured and subsequently opened Beaufort Cottage Equine Hospital, Newmarket, Suffolk, and was received by Dr Peter Rossdale (Senior and Founding Partner).

The Duke of Edinburgh, President, today attended the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth's Eighteenth Biennial Conference at the Beaufort Hotel, Darwin, Australia.

His Royal Highness this evening opened the new facilities of the First Combat Service Support Battalion and subsequently attended the Royal North Australian Show Society's Dinner at Robertson Barracks, Darwin.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 23: The Prince of Wales, Vice President, the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, this morning visited Mottisfont Abbey, Hampshire.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon held a Lunch for the Foundation for Integrated Medicine.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 23: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended the launch of the Crystal Palace Award Sports Project at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, London SE19.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 23: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, accompanied by The Duchess of Gloucester, this evening attended the Japan Society's Annual Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel, Hamilton Place, London W1.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, St Peter's Research Trust, for the cure of kidney disease, this afternoon visited the laboratories at the Institute of Urology and Nephrology, Riding House Street, London W1.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 23: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning visited Victor Industries Limited, New York Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear (Colonel Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison).

His Royal Highness later visited the Walker Open Learning and Fitness Centre, Church Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The Duke of Kent this afternoon attended a presentation of the Tyne and Wear Foundation's Tenth Anniversary at the Vermont Hotel, Castle Garth, Newcastle upon Tyne.

His Royal Highness, President, afterwards visited the Automobile Association Depot, Team Valley, Trading Estate, Gateshead.

The Duke of Kent, President, the Scout Association, later visited the Gosforth Park Activity Centre, East Lodge, Gosforth Park, Newcastle upon Tyne.



PAUL CLEMENTS

The Earl of Home with the plaster cast of a statue of his father, the former Prime Minister Lord Home of the Hirsel. The statue, created by Professor Bill Scott in his workshop at Roslin, Midlothian, will be the centrepiece of a monument at the Home family home near Coldstream, Borders

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.H.R. Collis and Miss N.V.V. Wake
The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Robin Collis, of Plaistow, West Sussex, and Natasha, eldest daughter of Dr Andrew Wake, of Noosa, Australia, and of Verona Curtis-Silk, of Brisbane.

Mr M.D. Fanthorpe and Miss S.C.N. Emden
The engagement is announced between Matthew, younger son of Mr David Fanthorpe, of East Sussex, and Mrs Kate Fanthorpe, of Gloucestershire, and Samantha, only daughter of the late Captain Richard Emden, OBE, DSC, RN, and of Mrs Emden, of Norfolk.

Mr T.E. Fuller and Miss N.M. Crellin
The engagement is announced between Timothy Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Arnold Fuller, of Lezaryre Lodge, Kerromoar, Isle of Man, and Natasha Madeleine, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Crellin, of Rockmount, Isle of Man.

Mr R.C. Hughes-Penney and Miss E.J. Hoare
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Roger Hughes-Penney, of Watford, Hertfordshire, and Elspeth, youngest daughter of Dr David Hoare, of Leeds, Yorkshire, and Mrs Melanie Guyler, of Bath, Somerset.

Mr W.F. O'Meara and Miss R. Seaward
The engagement is announced between William Francis, son of the late Dr Edward O'Meara and of Mrs O'Meara, of Hancock Point, Maine, USA, and Rosie, daughter of Mr Alan Seaward and Mrs David Nolan, of Baltonsborough, Somerset.

Mr H.J.P. Farr and Miss C.E.F. Platt
The engagement is announced between Henry, son of Mr and Mrs Bryan Farr, of Worksop, Nottinghamshire, and Claudie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Julian Platt, of Notting Hill, London.

Mr T.G. Graveney and Miss E.S. Munro
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr Thomas Graveney, OBE, and Mrs Graveney, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, and Emma, elder daughter of Sir Alan and Lady Munro, of Chiswick, London.

Mr M.D. Latham and Miss C.E. Parsonage
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs George Latham, of West Lothian, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Parsonage, of Kirkby-in-Cleveland.

Mr N.J. Richards and Miss H.J. Williams
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Mr and Mrs David Richards, of Sneyd Park, Bristol, and Helen, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Brian Williams, of Stoke Bishop, Bristol.

Mr J. Rusnak and Dr A. Sacerdoti
The engagement is announced between Joshua, son of Mr and Mrs Yehuda Rusnak, of Sydney, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Cesare Sacerdoti, of London.

Mr D.H. Shore and Miss A.E. Craig
The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Mrs Myra Shore and the late Mr John Shore, of Bristol, and Antoinette, daughter of Mr and Mrs Harry Craig, of Jersey.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as patron, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, will attend a 70th birthday anniversary concert at St David's Hall, Cardiff, at 6.45.

The Duke of York, as patron, will attend a reception given by the Jubilee Sailing Trust, at Chatsworth House, Derbyshire, at 7.00.

The Duke of Kent, as vice-chairman, British Overseas Trade Board, will attend a dinner to mark the centenary of the founding of Robert Bosch in the UK, at Guildhall, at 7.50.

Princess Alexandra will attend a reception given by the Tower Hamlets Old People's Welfare Trust at the Law Society, Chancery Lane, at 6.00.

Princess Alexandra and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy celebrate the 35th anniversary of their marriage today.

Reception

Mozart Summer Festival
General Sir Brian Kenny, Governor of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, and Ms Martha Kingdon Ward, Director of the Mozart Summer Festival, received the guests at a reception held yesterday at the hospital, after a St George's Day concert held to mark the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Pimlico Volunteers.

University news

Oxford
Sudarshan Kumaran of Green College has been awarded the L.J. Witts Prize in Haematology or Gastroenterology 1997-98.

Luncheons

First Day Cover Club
Mr Keith McDowall presided at a luncheon of the First Day Cover Club held yesterday at the Savile Club to mark the publication of the special set of Post Office stamps celebrating British comedians. Among those present were:
Mr Derek Foster, MP, Mr Charles Clarke, MP, Mr Robin Corbett, MP, Mr Philip Dewhurst, Mr Chris Major, Mr Alan Meale, MP, Mr Stewart Ritchie, Mr Gerald Scarfe, Mr Barry Sheerman, MP, and Mr Anthony Weale.

National Sporting Club
Mr John Francome and Mr Christopher Poole were the guests of honour at a luncheon of the National Sporting Club held yesterday at the Café Royal. Mr David Willis, director of the club, presided.

Immigration Advisory Service
Sir Sigmund Sternberg was the host at a luncheon held at the Reform Club yesterday in aid of the IAS. Mr Jack Straw, MP, was guest speaker.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Edmund Cartwright, pioneer of the power loom, Marnham, Nottinghamshire, 1743; Anthony Trollope, novelist, London, 1815; R.M. Ballantyne, novelist, Edinburgh, 1825; Sir Stafford Cripps, statesman, London, 1889; William Joyce (Lord Haw-Haw), traitor, Brooklyn, 1906.

DEATHS: Daniel Defoe, author and adventurer, London, 1731; the Duchess of Windsor, Paris, 1986.

Captain Joshua Slocum set sail from Boston, Massachusetts, in his sloop *Spray* on the first solo round-the-world voyage, 1895.

Sweet rationing ended, 1949.

Memorial services

Sir Ian MacGregor
Baroness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS, attended a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Ian MacGregor, former Chairman of British Steel and of the National Coal Board, held yesterday at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, London SW1.

The Very Rev John McIndoe officated. Mr Ian C.S. MacGregor, son, read the lesson and Professor Hugh Sutherland read *My Heart's in the Highlands* by Robert Burns. Mr Alan McFarland and Mr Peter Grant gave addresses. Among others present were:
Mrs Elizabeth Bates (daughter), Miss Meredith Bates, Miss Melissa Bates, Ian, Lesley and James MacGregor (grandchildren), Mrs Grace Mackinnon (sister), Mrs Barbara Marston and Mrs Gillian Spencer (sisters-in-law), Miss Janet Marston, Mr Robert Marston, Mr Richard Spencer, Ms Fiona Vernon, Mr and Mrs D Haywood, Mr Donald Mackinnon and other members of the family.
Lord Lang of Monkton, Lord King of Wartnaby, Lord Haslam, Sir William Lithgow, Sir Gordon Reece, Sir Denys Henderson, Sir Ian Fraser, Sir Kenneth Couzens, Sir Robert Clark (chairman, R P and C International), Sir William Purves, Sir Brian Moffat (chairman, British Steel), Sir Robert and Lady Scholey, Sir Thomas and Lady Macpherson.
Mrs Alan McFarland, Miss Sheila Mann, Mrs Thelma Houston, Miss Haruko Fukuda, Mr Jackie Stewart, Mr Albert Frost, Mr Peter Bryant, Dr and Mrs David Grieves, Mr James Mackenzie, Mr R S P Pinguet, Mr and Mrs Murdoch Macleod, Miss Mairi Macleod, Mr Rupert Allason, Mr David Hart, Mr Michael Butler, Mr and Mrs David Walker, Dr Fiona Mackinnon-Slaney, Mr Frank Holloway, Mr and Mrs Howard Macdonald, Mr Solly Gross.
Mr Edward Frazer and Mr Ford Fraker (partners, Trinity Group) with Mr Brian Woolley, Mr Frederick G Fisher and Mr Edward McDonald; Mr David Verey (chairman, Lazard Brothers) also representing the partners; Mr Simon Webley (British-North American Research Association), Mr Richard Donaldson (Adam and Co), Mr Ivan W Pratt (secretary, The Stroke Association) and other friends and former colleagues.

Sir David Crouch
The Lord-Lieutenant of Kent was represented by Lady Kingsdown at a memorial service for Sir David Crouch, former MP for Canterbury, held yesterday in the Quire of Canterbury Cathedral. The Dean of Canterbury officiated and the Right Rev Dr David Say, KCVO, led the bidding prayers. Ms Vanessa Foster Crouch, daughter, read the lesson and Mr Patrick Crouch, son, read from the works of Minnie Louise Haskins. The Rev Nicolas Stacey gave an address.

Latest wills

John Percival Sowden, company director, of East Tytherley, Romsey, Hampshire, left estate valued at £3,243,835 net.

Geoffrey Herbert Vieler, of Ascot, Berkshire, left estate valued at £1,038,058 net.

Garden designers show their skills

By Alan Toogood, Horticultural Correspondent

THE best exhibit at the Harrogate Spring Flower Show is an artistic display of trees, shrubs and perennials from Burncoose Nurseries, of Redruth, Cornwall.

Its long vista is framed by a moongate, through which runs a canal with a giant rhubarb-like gunnera forming a focal point at the far end. The skilfully arranged plants include many unusual and choice kinds such as the rarely seen double-flowered white Banksian rose.

A new feature of the show, which opened yesterday, is an outdoor rock garden by Douglas G. Knight, of Formby, Merseyside. It is constructed from water-worn limestone obtained from the deep underground Greenhow Quarry in Nidderdale, not from surface formations of limestone, many of which are under threat from illegal extraction.

For the first time the show has a garden design section where professional designers are showing their skills. A Dales garden by Elaine Newington Ward, of Settle, North Yorkshire, featured beautifully constructed limestone walling as a backdrop for spring flowers. The woodland garden by Jenny Gaunt, of Northallerton, and Phil Robinson, of Wensleydale, has a willow sculpture as a focal point.

The show is well-supported by local gardens, including the Harlow Carr Botanical Gardens of Harrogate, showing plants for moist soil and shade including their own strains of primula, and meconopsis (blue poppy).

The Great Houses and Gardens of Yorkshire Group are promoting gardens open to the public. Their Victorian show garden features many tender plants such as palms, bananas and Norfolk Island pine, which Victorian gardeners placed outdoors for the summer, using a technique known as plunge bedding in which the pots were plunged to their rims in flowerbeds.

The Historic Gardens of Yorkshire Group are also promoting gardens. Their show garden ranges from a cultivated area rich in rhododendrons to wildlife habitats such as moorland and wild flower meadow.

The show is very strong on spring bulbs and considering the earliness of the season, reflects the skill of the growers.

J. Walker's Bulbs of Holbeach, Lincolnshire, has staged virtually all types of daffodil including some good quality double-flowered cultivars, such as "Unique" (yellow and white) and "Tahiti" (orange and yellow).

Several new cultivars are included in the display of tulips from Blons Bulbs of Melchbourne in Bedfordshire: parrot tulips "Professor Roentgen" (orange) and "Webber's Parrot" (pink and green), and double-flowered "Orange Princess".

Rarely seen at shows these days, being reminiscent of past times, is a large bank of Schizanthus (Poor Man's Orchid) from Leeds City Council, Templenewsam Park.

Connoisseurs should enjoy the display of rare plants and bulbs from Jacques Armand, of Stanmore, Middlesex, who is featuring Arisaemas (the Arum family) including some new colour forms from China of the best-known species *Arisaema candidissina*.

Other highlights of the show, organised by the North of England Horticultural Society, include daffodil and tulip shows, the Alpine Garden Society's show (Saturday only) and displays of flower arrangements.

The show, in the Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, is open from 9.30 am to 6 pm daily, closing on Sunday at 4.30 pm.

Dinners

The Japan Society
The Duke of Gloucester, Patron of the Japan Society, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, was present at its Annual Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel, Park Lane on April 23, 1998. The Guest Speaker was Mr Andrew Davis, Musical Director of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera and Chief Conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra. During the evening, the Japan Society Awards were presented to Mrs Haruko Lewis, of the Birmingham Japan Society, and Mr Trevor England, of CATCH, in recognition of their outstanding work in the field of Anglo-Japanese Relations.

Lord Mayor
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave the Easter Banquet last night at the Mansion House in honour of members of the Diplomatic Corps and their escorts. The Lord Mayor, the High Commissioner of Uganda and Mr Robin Cook, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, were the speakers. Among those present were:
Mrs Cook, Sir Murray Fox, Miss C Fox, the Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps and the Hon Lady Weatherall, General Sir Edward and Lady Jones, the Vice-Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps and Mrs Astley, Sir John and Lady Kerr and Sir John and Lady Wheeler.

The Scriveners' Company
The Livery Dinner of The Scriveners Company was held last night at Painters' Hall. The Master, Mr Donald Jackson, presided, and the principal guests were Past Master Sir Colin Cole, President, Royal Society of St George, and Val Feld, Director for Wales, Equal Opportunities Commission. During the evening the Master presented donations to the Welfare Funds of the Company's Affiliated units of HM Forces, *HMS Beaver* and LXX Squadron, RAF.

The Bow Group
Mr Nicholas Green, Chairman, and Officers of the Bow Group, were the hosts at the Annual Dinner held at Quaglino's. Lord Parkinson, Chairman of the Conservative Party, was the principal guest.

Society of Chemical Industry
Mr Ken Minton, President of the Society of Chemical Industry, presided and presented the centenary medal to Dr Chris Evans at a dinner held last night at the Hotel InterContinental, London.

Church news

The Rev Edward Bickersteth, Administrator, Proclamation Trust (London): to be Priest-in-Charge, Arborfield w Barkham (Oxford).

School news

Abbots Bromley School of S Mary & S Anne
Summer Term began on April 20. The Senior Choir will join Lancing College Choir to sing Britten's *St Nicolas* at Lancing and Westminster Abbey, April 29/30. Guild and Leavers' Service in Chapel 11.15am, Sunday, May 17: Guild Members and parents welcome. Commemoration is Saturday, May 23: Guest Preacher Canon Roger Royle; Sports Afternoon follows Commemoration. Sixth Form and Friends' Ball Saturday, June 27. Junior School Performing Arts Festival, Wednesday, July 1. Mr Alan Grigg, Headmaster, retires after 10 years at the end of this term: Mr and Mrs Grigg will host a Concert of Music, Drama & Dance on Saturday, July 4, at 7pm. A Midsummer Concert to be given by former pupils will take place on Sunday, July 5, at 3pm. Speech Day concludes Term on Saturday, July 11, with Guest Speaker Michael Fabricant, MP.

Abbot's Hill School
Abbot's Hill School term began on Monday, April 20, 1998. The Old Girls' Reunion is on Saturday, May 9, 1998. All Old Girls and their families are most welcome.

Queen's College, London
Trinity Term began on Wednesday, April 22. Half term is from Monday, May 25, to Friday, May 29, inclusive. The programme of events to celebrate the College Sesquicentenary continues this term, with a public lecture, given by Sir Stephen Egerton and chaired by Dr William Plowden, on 'Gertrude Bell — Empire Builder or Conservationist?' on Monday, April 27, at 6.45pm. On Monday, June 22, at 6.45pm there will be a public lecture, given by Dr Johanna Geyer-Kordesch and chaired by Dr Jane Somerville, on 'Sophia Jex-Blake — Crusader Against Prejudice'. On Friday, May 1, the anniversary of the opening of the College, there will be a 'Victorian Day', during which staff and pupils will recreate a Victorian school day. Term ends on Thursday, July 2, after Annual Gathering, during which the Principal will deliver her Annual Report to the Visitor, the Right Rev Richard Chartres, Bishop of London. This will be followed by a concert at St Peter's, Vere Street, and then by a drinks party, to which all current parents and 1998 leavers are invited. On Tuesday, July 7, from 6.00pm to 9.00pm, there will be a 'Grand Gathering' at the College, to which all old girls and former staff are invited. We are still keen to hear from any former pupils and staff not yet in touch with the College: please contact Janice Lavery on 0171 637 1260.

Trinity School, Croydon
Trinity School announces the following awards:
13+
Academic Scholarships: B.H.D. Jones, Cumnor House; N.J. Uglow, Cumnor House; D.I.R. Willmer, Cumnor House; P.J. Winter, Homefield Preparatory School.
Music Scholarship: G.J. Weller, Langley Boys' School.
Music Tuition Scholarship: M.R. Soper, St Edmund's Junior School, Canterbury.
12+
Academic Scholarship: N.G.W. Bacon, Bangkok International School.
11+
Academic Scholarships: R.J. Bishopp, Woodcote Junior School; S.D. Bishopp, Woodcote Junior School; J.R. Fink, Selsdon Primary School; R.W. Knight, Oakhyrst Grange Preparatory School; J.A.E. Mugridge, Elmhurst School; D.S. Nursigadoo, Elmhurst School; A. Patel, Cumnor House; S.G. Pattison, St David's College; J.S. Robinson, Scotts Park Primary School; J-V.J. Shah, St James the Great Junior School; T.A. Sherwood, Dulwich College Preparatory School; R.J. Woolley, Highfield Junior School.
Music Scholarships: J.F. Musgrave, Courtwood Primary School; S.J. Petley, Christ Church Junior School.
Music Tuition Scholarship: T.M. McCulloch, Clare House Primary School.
10+
Academic Scholarships
M.H. Ahmed, Cumnor House; T. Beverton, St Christopher's School; K.R. Burnett, Atwood Primary School; M.R. Crombie, Oak Lodge Primary School; S.I. Glassington, The Lodge Schools; S.J. Holding, Pickhurst Junior School; G.S. Jacobs, All Saints' Junior School; K.B.Y. Lyon, Beechwood School; A.J.P. Noakes, Cumnor House; K. Pathmamohan, Roke Primary School; D.J. Peck, Orchard Way Junior School; S.J. Singh, The Lodge Schools.
Music Tuition Scholarship: C.P. Taylor, Benson Primary School.
14+
Academic Scholarship: A.V. Lyon, Trinity.
16+
Sports Scholarship: D.W. Bennett, Trinity.

Birthdays today

Sir Bernard Audley, founder, AGB Research, 74; Mr Edward Bonnor-Maurice, chairman, British Horse Society, 70; Mr Ralph Brown, sculptor, 70; Field Marshal Lord Carver, 83; Mr J.E.H. Collins, former chairman, Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Group, 75; Mr Justice Cresswell, 54; the Earl of Eldon, 61; Sir Clement Freud, former MP and writer, 74; Dame Helen Gardiner, former chief clerk, Private Secretary's Office, Buckingham Palace, 97; M Jean Paul Gaultier, fashion designer, 46; Mr John Harvey, former MP, 78; Mr Fred Heddell, chief executive, Mencap, 53; Mr Richard Jarman, former general director, Scottish Opera, 49; Miss Shirley MacLaine, actress, 64; Mr Alex Murphy, rugby league manager, 59; Sir Hugh Park, former High Court judge, 88; Mr Stuart Pearce, footballer, 36; Professor David B. Quinn, historian of Early America, 89; Mr Joseph Rank, former honorary president, Ranks Hovis McDougall, 80; Miss Bridget Riley, artist, 67; the Rev Geoffrey H. Roper, general secretary of the Free Churches' Council, 58; Mr Christopher Spence, chief executive, National Centre for Volunteering and founder, London Lighthouse; and his twin brother, Mr Peter Spence, screenwriter, 54; Miss Barbra Streisand, singer and actress, 56; Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart Townend, founder, Hill House International Junior School, 89; Mr John Williams, guitarist, 57.

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BIRTHS

BARBROOK-FENDER - On April 19th 1998, a daughter, Sophie, to Elaine and Alan, a sister for Emily.

BLOOMFIELD - On 24th March 1998, to Sandi (née Edington) and Mark, a son, Jamie Alexander Charles, a brother for Harry.

BROWNE - On April 16th 1998 to Sara (née Washington) and Chris, a daughter, Georgia Rose, a sister for Louis, William, Jonas, Samuel and Harrison.

CASS - On April 21st at West Middlesex University Hospital, to Carol (née Burnett) and Martin, a daughter, Amy Elizabeth.

COMBERFORD - On 22nd April 1998, to Catherine (née Clark) and John, a daughter, Martha, a sister for Milo and Harvey.

DAWES - On Thursday 16th April, to Lucy (née Penrose) and Nicholas, a son, Thomas Charles D'Arcy.

EATON - On Sunday 22nd March to Tiffany (née Dunlop) and Roger, a daughter, Calypso Rose Iona Tiger.

EVANS - On Easter Sunday, April 12th, 1998 to Caroline (née Lavender) and Edward, a daughter (Venetia Anne Probert)

GEHRER - On April 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Mercedes (née Natter) and Hanspeter, a cute son, Milian Joseph Rudolf.

GRANVILLE - On April 16th, to Anne (née Topping) and Fergus, a daughter, Rose Alice.

HALLAM - To Lindsay (née Roberts) and Guy, two daughters, Rebecca Chantal and Charlotte Elise, on 22nd April 1998 at The Princess Margaret Hospital, Windsor.

HAY - On 12th April at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, to Fiona (née Young) and Stuart, a son, Angus Stuart, a brother for Bruce and Emily.

HOENIG - On April 20th at The Portland Hospital, to Suzanne and Nicholas, a son, Matthew, a brother for James and David.

HOLLOWAY - On March 30th, to Emma (née Samuelson) and John, a daughter, Beatrice, sister to Cameron.

JACKSON - On 1st April 1998 at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Beverley and Fraser, a daughter, Holly Louise, a sister for Euan.

KAYE - On 20th April 1998, to Charlotte Vernon-Harcourt and Paul Kaye, a son, Hector Thomas Vernon.

MILLER - On 22nd April 1998 at R.F.H. Hampstead, to Sara (née Waller) and Nick, a daughter, Saskia Lois Hope.

NALL-CAIN - On April 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah-Jane (née Bremner) and James, a daughter, Susan Beatrix Eloise. Andrew was right all along!

NEALE - On April 4th, to Karen (née Bennett) and Harvey, a son, Alexander John, a brother for Francesca.

NEWTON - On April 18th, to Elizabeth and Derek, a son, Thomas William, a brother for Katie.

POWELL - On 18th April 1998 at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Philippa (née Lumsden) and David, a daughter, Cordelia Elizabeth Clare, a sister for Eleanor.

SCOTT - On April 8th 1998 at Mason City, Iowa, USA, to Kassia (née St Clair Mills) and Christopher, a son, William Sinclair, a brother for Callum.

TREGONNING - On 8th April at Prince of Wales Private Hospital, Sydney, to Elizabeth (née Gaussen) and Anthony, a daughter, Clementine Sioned Emilia.

TURNER - On 20th April at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Lucy (née Auld) and Matt, a son, Jack Duncan Manson, a brother for Annabelle.

VERNON-HARCOURT - See Kaye.

WILKS - On April 20th to Clare and Alex a son, Sam.

WOODMAN - On April 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Paula (née Russo) and David, a son, Christopher David, our first.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

MURRAY:TETLEY - On 24th April 1948 at Eastnor Village Church, Herefordshire, John Murray married Margaret Tetley. Fifty turbulent but very happy years.

DEATHS

BOWEN-COLTHURST - Paddy peacefully at home on April 20th 1998 aged 85 years. Dearly loved husband of Sue and father of Rosemary, Tricia, Bess and Caroline. There will be a service of thanksgiving for his life at St John the Baptist Church in Layer-de-la-Haye, Colchester at 2.30 pm on April 29th. No flowers please.

BROADBENT - On April 20th, 1998, peacefully, Hilary Louise, aged 92 years. Widow of John Fred Broadbent, mother of Michael and Roger, grandmother and great-grandmother. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St James the Great, Chipping Campden on Friday, May 1st at 3.30 pm. Donations, if desired, to Guide Dogs for the Blind, c/o Philip Tomlins Ltd, 36, The Leys, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5AP.

BROOKE - Mrs Margaret Ruth ('Betty') Brooke, née Burnford, wife of the late Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Brooke, mother of Sheila-Ann (died 1995), David, Diana and Andrew. Peacefully in Lymington Hospital on 23rd April 1998. Cremation (family only) followed by Memorial Service at St John the Baptist Church, Boldre, near Lymington, on Friday 1st May at 2 pm. No flowers but donations to Oakhaven Hospice, near Lymington would be welcomed through Davies Funeral Services, Wallis House, Milford-on-Sea, Hants.

BROOKE - Peter Barrington suddenly April 20th aged 71. Adored husband of Sue, devoted father and grandfather. Sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral April 29th at 1.00 pm St Mary's Church, Stratton, Dorset. Family flowers only. Any donations to Cancer Research Campaign c/o Grassby Funeral Service 16 Princes St, Dorchester.

CHURTON - Thomas Richard Harding on 21st April peacefully in York District Hospital aged 91. He was very much loved and will be sadly missed by his devoted wife Barbara, his three sons Anthony, Christopher and Robert and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral Service at 1.30 pm on 27th April at St Peter's Church, Dalby, Yorkshire, followed by burial. Family flowers only. Donations to Dalby Church. Enquiries to C. Medd Funeral Directors, (01347) 821370.

GARFIELD - On April 16th 1998 Katharine aged 79 years. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral Service has taken place but if desired donations for the W.W.F. may be sent c/o Monumental Funeral Service, 92/94 Broadwater Street West, Worthing, (01903) 235353.

HÄGGI - On April 21st, in Lugano, Switzerland, our beloved Margrit, died peacefully after a short illness. Much loved sister-in-law of Margrit Häggi and Hedi Hirsiger and aunty of Annemarie Gaudy and Jürg Häggi and respective families. Our grateful thanks to all her kind loving friends and carers. Funeral service Monday 4th May at 14.00hrs in the 'Reformierte Kirche' Viale Cattaneo, Lugano Switzerland. No flowers by request, donations if desired to the International Committee for the Red Cross, PC 12-5527-6, Genève, Switzerland.

HUBBARD - Vivienné MBE, formerly of the Home Office, peacefully free from pain and suffering on April 22nd. A kind and thoughtful lady, will be sadly missed by her family and many friends. Funeral Service at St Mark's Church, Wimbledon SW19 at 1.30 pm on Monday April 27th. Enquiries to Mears & Cotterill, Wandsworth SW18, tel: (0181) 874-7698.

LLEWELYN - Huw Simon, aged 33 years, much loved husband of Michele, deeply loved son of Robert and Billie, beloved brother of Rebekah and Ben, cherished grandson of Dorothy Llewelyn, also uncle to Toby and Jacob, died on 21st April in New York after a very brief illness. Funeral Service at St. Catherine's Church, Gloucester, on Tuesday, 28th April at 12 noon. Interment at South Cerney. Memorial Service in New York to be announced later. Enquiries to Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, Jessica Brown (0171) 475 5481. Flowers may be sent to Goodwins Funeral Directors, Barton Street, Gloucester (01452) 522 856 or donations to the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy at 1 Dean Trench Street, London SW1P 3HB

MORGAN - On 18th April at Kings College Hospital, Josephine Ann, MBE, aged 69. Beloved Sister and Aunt, dear friend and colleague of many in England and USA in the Midwifery and Medical professions. All enquiries to R & P Everson FD tel: 01983-755733.

MORRIS - Gwendoline Mildred Hazel (née Platts), dearly loved widow of William Rowland Morris and mother of Duncan, Alastair and Robin, peacefully in Patcham Nursing Home on Tuesday 21st April 1998. Funeral Service at Woodvale Crematorium, Brighton at 3.45pm on Wednesday 29th April. Flowers to Co-operative Funeral Service, 133 London Road, Brighton.

POCOCK - Peacefully on 21st April 1998 in Walmer, aged 89, Reverend Lovell Pocock, OBE, MA, Chaplain - Royal Navy 1936-1963, Vicar - Martin, Hants 1963-1976, Rector - Ringwould with Kingsdown 1967-1977. Beloved husband of Mary, father of Susan, Andrew, Charlotte and Stephen, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church, Ringwould on 29th April 1998 at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to King George's Fund for Sailors, c/o Undertakers - J. Dilnot Smith & Son, 01304 380914.

PLATTS - See Morris.

RINALDI - Prof. Valia, Italian Artist, after a short illness in hospital on April 20th. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium at 12.30pm on Tuesday 28th April. Enquiries R.P. Sherry & Son, tel: (0171) 723-0425.

SINCLAIR - Peacefully after a long illness at St John's Hospice, St John's Wood, London on 20th April 1998 Gray, M.B.E. aged 84 years. Funeral Service at West London Crematorium, Harrow Road, London W10 on Friday 1st May at 2.15pm. No flowers please, but donations in lieu in favour of The Chartered Institute of Journalists Benevolent Fund, and all enquiries to A France & Son, 45 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NH. Telephone no. 0171 405 4901.

STOW - Désirée Cicely Fenwick (Dizz) of Littlehampton on 19th April 1998 aged 75. Funeral on Monday 27th April at Worthing Crematorium Main Chapel at 1.20 pm. Enquiries (01483) 203365.

TIMONEY - On Monday April 20th peacefully at home in Oxford W. Craig Timoney D.F.C., beloved husband, father and grandfather. Private cremation. Memorial Service at date to be announced. No flowers please.

TYACK - On April 21st at the John Radcliffe Hospital Oxford, Paul Hallum aged 91 years passed peacefully away after a short illness. A Service of Thanksgiving for Paul's long and happy life will be held at the Abbey Church of St Peter and St Paul, Dorchester-on-Thames on Monday 27th April 1998 at 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to be sent to The Oxford Samaritans, 123, Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1EJ. Enquiries to Howard Chadwick Funeral Service 01491 825222.

WALTON - On Wednesday April 22nd 1998 in Royston Hospital, Marion Joan of Great Chishill, Cambs., aged 86 years. Dearly loved wife of John and dearest mother of Jill and Anthony. Funeral Service private. Donations gratefully accepted for the League of Friends of Royston and District Hospital c/o S. Newling & Son Funeral Directors, 2 Palace Gardens, Royston, Herts.

WATSON - Margaret Elizabeth Mary (Betty) on 17th April 1998. A much loved sister, aunt and great-aunt. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Sheringham R.N.L.I., c/o Hon. Treasurer, 57 Regis Avenue, Beeston Regis, Norfolk NR26 8SN. Funeral Service at Golders Green Crematorium, Thursday 30th April at 12.30 pm. Enquiries to Leverton & Sons 0171 387 6075.

WOOTTON - Frank A.A., O.B.E., after a long, fulfilled life and a mercifully short illness, died at home 21st April, aged 83 years. Private funeral for his family and close friends on 30th April at 11 am at Berwick Church. We will all miss him, especially Jimmy, to whom he gave so much love for forty years of happy marriage. Family flowers only c/o Cooper & Son, 42, High Street, Lewes, but, if wished, donations in his memory to his lifelong support of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, 67, Portland Place, London, W1N 4AR. A celebration of his life will be held at St Clement Danes, London, at a date to be announced.

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

WITT - Dr. Rex, died in Athens 24th April 1980. In loving memory. Mary, Richard and Clemency.

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OBITUARIES

CONSTANTINE KARAMANLIS

Constantine Karamanlis, Prime Minister of Greece, 1955-63, and 1974-80, died yesterday aged 91. He was born on February 23, 1907.

The Grand Old Man of Greek politics, Constantine Karamanlis spent 14 years as Prime Minister of his country and ten as its President. His dominant personality set a distinctive seal on the political fortunes of Greece for four decades — it was as recently as 1995 that he stepped down from his last term as President. But he will be remembered historically for the lead he gave to his people and their politicians in restoring democracy to his country in 1974 after seven years of military dictatorship which appeared to have removed Greece permanently from the comity of civilised European nations. It was a moment of rich personal triumph when, on the night of July 23-24, 1974, a million Greeks, holding lit tapers as on Resurrection night, turned out in the streets to hail him as he returned from self-imposed exile to take over the reins of government after the downfall of the colonels.

Later, it was under his leadership that Greece became a full member of the European Economic Community. On May 23, 1979, flanked by the leaders of the then nine EC nations in Zappeion Hall in Athens, he signed the Treaty of Accession which brought Greece into a firm and equal partnership with Western Europe, ending symbolically an era of underdevelopment. Under him, too, Greek political parties learnt how to alternate in power without upheaval or convulsions. This had immeasurable benefits in terms of the country's growth to political maturity, on both the national and international stages. For example, in 1981, when his party was defeated at the polls under his successor, the victorious Socialist Pasok party was led by Andreas Papandreou, a man committed to pulling Greece out of the EEC. But, as President, Karamanlis was able to exert a moderating influence gently converting Papandreou to a belief in the European project. Withdrawal has never since been on the political agenda in Greece.

Born in the small village of Proti near Serres in northern Greece, Constantine Karamanlis was the eldest of the village teacher's four sons and three daughters. He graduated with honours from the Law School of Athens University, and set up a law practice in Serres on borrowed money. He was given his baptism of fire in politics in 1935, when he was elected to parliament for Serres on the ticket of the royalist "Populist Party". Although he was re-elected the following year, his term was shortlived, owing to the advent of the Metaxas dictatorship, which suppressed all political activity.

During the Second World War, Karamanlis fled to Athens as the district of Serres was taken over by the Bulgarians, allies of Nazi Germany, who had occupied part of Greece in 1941. His efforts to join the Free Greek Forces in the Middle East were successful only a few days before the liberation of Greece in October 1944. He promptly returned to liberated Athens.

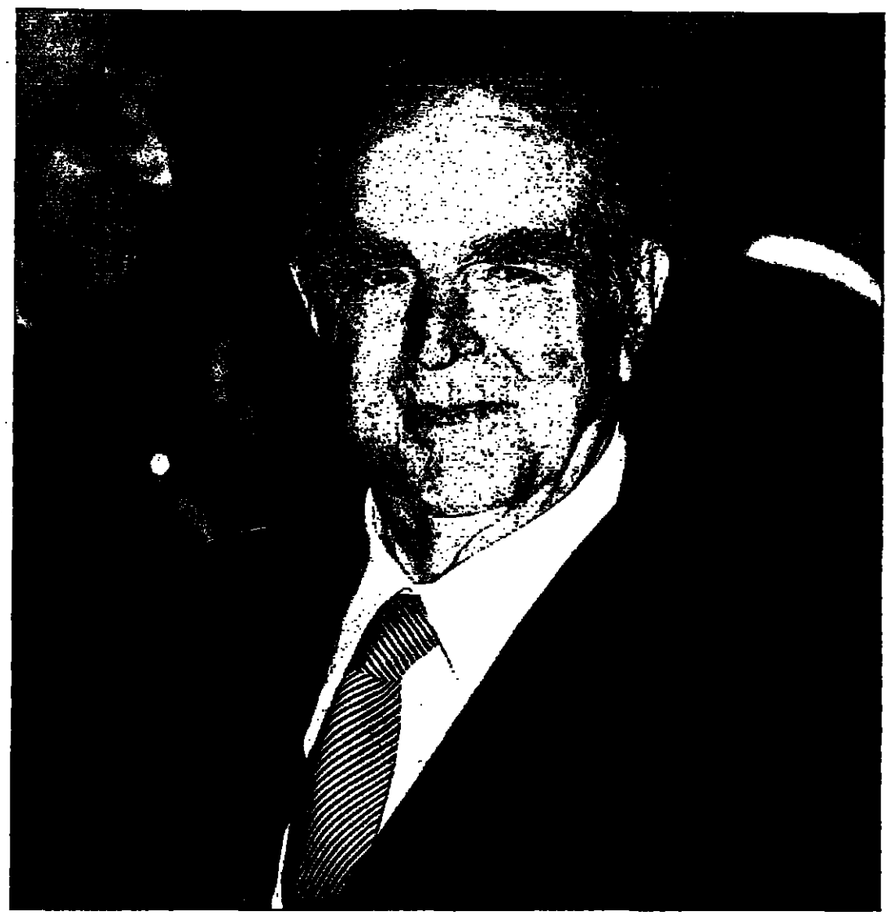
With the Populist Party sweeping the polls in the first postwar elections in 1946, he was returned as a deputy for Serres again. He held several Cabinet posts, but it was as Minister of Social Welfare that he made his mark: between 1948 and 1950 he organised the repatriation of some 700,000 Greek peasants who had fled from their villages during the civil war. Later, as Minister of Defence, he secured the army's help in rebuilding their destroyed villages.

In 1951 he left the Populist Party, which was disintegrating under charges of corruption, and joined the Greek Rally, the new right-wing party founded by Field Marshal Alexander Papagos. When the Rally came to power in 1952, Karamanlis was appointed Minister of Public Works, a post which enabled him to demonstrate in an impressively tangible manner his abilities as a man of action: new ports, highways, bridges and airports were built during his tenure, in a country that had been ravaged by a decade of war, enemy occupation and civil strife.

When Papagos died in October 1955, King Paul who, like most Greeks, had been impressed by his performance, brushed aside Papagos's feuding successors and asked Karamanlis, then only 48, to form the next government. The King's bold initiative pre-empted the party's choice of a new leader. His opponents promptly coined a Greek word which translates as "favouritocracy", to imply that Karamanlis had become Prime Minister by the grace of the King rather than through the will of the people.

He found the insinuation intolerable. Although he had inherited a parliamentary majority that could easily have carried his administration for another 18 months, he dissolved the Greek Rally party and founded his own National Radical Union (ERE) party. In the election of February 1956 ERE won by defeating the combined opposition forces of liberals and leftists.

In the eight years when Karamanlis first governed the country, Greece crossed the threshold to economic development and achieved a fair degree of industrialisation under conditions of economic stability. It was these achievements that ultimately gave the Greek economy the resilience



that carried it through the many vicissitudes that were to follow. In February 1959 Karamanlis signed with Turkey and Britain the agreements that made Cyprus an independent republic, putting what turned out to be a temporary end to the bitter strife on the island.

After the elections of 1961, which gave his party a 51 per cent majority vote, his liberal rivals joined forces under the leadership of George Papandreou, a galvanising orator, and launched an all-out campaign denouncing the elections as rigged. Because of his Government's wear and tear, Karamanlis's opponents found the going relatively easy. He began to feel impatient and was increasingly intolerant of criticism. The assassination of the left-wing deputy Gregory Lambrakis by right-wing hooligans in Salonika in May 1963 was a final blow to his frayed nerves, as the Opposition saddled him with moral responsibility for the crime.

A month later he resigned, invoking his disagreement with the King and Queen over their scheduled visit to London; he went to Switzerland for a long overdue rest. But his five months abroad cut him off from the realities at home. He returned on the eve of the elections of November 1963, confident that he would win a spectacular victory. But he was beaten by a narrow margin by Papandreou's Centre Union party. Shocked and disillusioned, he left for Paris, surrendering the leadership of the party to Panayotis Kanellopoulos, his deputy.

For 11 years he lived in a flat in Paris, keeping a watchful eye on the Greek scene and feeling terribly homesick. He read a great deal and had time to study at close quarters West European politics and philosophy. He became an ardent admirer of President de Gaulle. Then, in April 1967, the gradual decay of parliamentary democracy (which he had prophesied) led a handful of army colonels to seize power in Greece. Karamanlis denounced their action and urged them to go back to their barracks. His appeal caused a stir throughout the country, but the colonels ignored him.

In the years that followed, he made repeated appeals to the junta to give up power. When he became convinced that they had no intention of relinquishing it, he invited the army to move against them. Those newspapers who had the temerity to publish his text were seized and prosecuted, but the impression created was profound. One major factor in the fall of the junta and the restoration of democracy in Greece was the knowledge that Karamanlis was ready to take over.

On July 23, 1974, after a disastrous coup in Cyprus and with Greece on the verge of war with Turkey, the second junta agreed to hand over power to the elected politicians. Karamanlis was invited to return at once to steer the nation clear of the danger of war and to restore democracy. He was given a tumultuous welcome and was promptly sworn in as Prime Minister.

Within 48 hours he had formed a Government of national unity, which in two months averted war with Turkey (although failing to obtain a Cyprus settlement), placed the armed forces under political control, dismantled the main junta security apparatus, and purged the administration. Within a year the leaders of the fallen junta were put on trial, convicted and jailed.

In a gesture that won him enormous temporary popularity, but which was to cost him many headaches later, Karamanlis pulled Greece out of Nato's military wing, invoking the indifference the alliance had shown to the Turkish invasion of Cyprus.

After setting up his new party, the New Democracy, and legalising the Communist Party, which had been banned since 1947, he called elections in November 1974, and was returned to power by an unprecedented 54 per cent victory, elected with 220 of the 300 deputies. Four weeks later he gave the Greeks their first genuine chance to determine freely by referendum whether they wanted a monarchy or a republic. His own party refrained from taking part in the campaign, while the Opposition agitated vigorously in favour of a republic. It was said that he opposed the restoration of the monarchy (which had been deposed by the junta) because he saw himself cast in the role of a de Gaulle. The referendum resulted in a two-to-one vote in favour of a republic.

In June 1975 parliament approved a new Constitution, which incorporated all the reforms that Karamanlis had yearned to put through 12 years earlier. Most Greeks were convinced that the new Constitution — which gave the President increased powers — had been tailored to fit Karamanlis, who clearly aspired to end his career as head of state. He himself had not made up his mind, and kept his options open. He nominated a close and trusted collaborator, Constantine Tsatsos, a philosopher and politician, to be the first President, for five years. Meanwhile he carried on as Prime Minister, intent on solving three main problems: Greek entry into the EEC, the reintegration of Greece in Nato, and the resolution of Greece's differences with Turkey.

In the general election of 1977 his New Democracy party again led at the polls and won a working majority in Parliament, but its share of the total vote declined to 42 per cent. More alarming to him was the fact that the moderate centre parties lost second place to the Marxist-Socialist Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) of Andreas Papandreou. This, more than any other single factor, induced him to seek election as President, from which position he believed he could avert a new upheaval if the anti-Western Pasok came to power.

On May 5, 1980, after relinquishing the leadership of his party, he was elected by parliament to be President of the Republic on a three-fifths majority of 183 votes. In a general election 18 months later, his successor, George Rallis, was defeated by Papandreou whose party was swept into power with 48 per cent of the national vote. During his cohabitation with the Socialists, Karamanlis refrained from meddling in the day-to-day business of government, but his moderating influence was felt more and more, especially in the country's foreign policy. Though the ruling Socialists were pledged to pull Greece out of the Nato alliance, they did not press the issue, and even renewed the agreement on American military bases in Greece for five further years. What is more, Papandreou the anti-marketeer became an ardent supporter of European integration.

All these policy U-turns, however, cost Papandreou much of his popularity with the Left. As the end of the President's five-year term approached in 1985, he vowed to support Karamanlis's re-election, but at the last minute he suddenly switched and nominated a Supreme Court judge, Christos Sartzetakis. At the same time he called for constitutional reforms to curtail the presidential prerogatives.

Without waiting for his term to expire, Karamanlis resigned and went into retirement. Papandreou's ploy to induce his disgruntled left-wing supporters to believe that Karamanlis had been the last obstacle to true socialism had worked. He called an early election in June 1985 and won a second term. But mismanagement, corruption and lack of direction by the new Socialist administration, combined with the absence of inspiring leadership within the Opposition, increased pressure for Karamanlis's return to active politics as the general election of 1989 approached. He resisted the calls, although it was known that if the country faced a serious crisis he would not refuse to serve.

In the event, when neither of the candidates for the presidency (one of whom was the incumbent, Christos Sartzetakis) was able to gain the necessary majority in the presidential election of March 1990, Karamanlis agreed to stand, and that May, at the age of 83, he was elected to his second term.

By this time he was suffering increasingly from ill-health (as was Papandreou, who made a surprise return for yet another term as Prime Minister in 1993). In a confused period in Greek politics, Karamanlis's role as President was far less meaningful than it had been in the 1980s, and in 1995 he resigned to make way for a compromise candidate, Costis Stephanopoulos.

Karamanlis's marriage to Amalia Kanelopoulos was dissolved in 1970. There were no children.

BONAR SYKES

Bonar Sykes, diplomat, farmer and art collector, died on April 1 aged 75. He was born on December 20, 1922.

BONAR SYKES, who worked in the Foreign Service before devoting himself to estate management, was the grandson of Andrew Bonar Law, the Prime Minister when he was born. As a baby he was dandled on the knee of his grandfather, who was struggling with the debt from the First World War.

The century's shortest-serving Prime Minister is supposed to have said to his grandson: "You poor wee mite, you'll still be paying for this when you're my age." As Bonar Sykes wryly commented at the unveiling of a sculpture of his grandfather in the House of Commons in 1996: "He was right — I probably still am."

When he was five, his father, the former Chief of the Air Staff, Sir Frederick Sykes, was appointed Governor of Bombay. The young Sykes was a godson of Rudyard Kipling and enormously enjoyed his youth in India, even though it included being "blooded" while riding with the Poona Foxhounds — a jackal hunting pack. When he was about seven, he watched through a keyhole as Gandhi talked with his father in Government House, Bombay: his father wanted him to see the famous man, but thought it would be impolitic to introduce the child to the figure whom Winston Churchill referred to at the time as "a half-naked fakir".

Sykes ended his schooldays at Eton on lookout duty for firebombs during 1940. He joined the Royal Navy, and spent six formative years with it. He crossed the Atlantic seven times on corvette duty, protecting the North Atlantic convoys, sailing as far north as Reykjavik and as far south as Lisbon. He was present at the D-Day landings, and then assisted with the "E-boats" that were defending the landing parties against forays from U-boats operating out of Le Havre. Later in the war he took part in the costly but strategically vital Walkeren Raid, which secured the bridgehead in The Netherlands.

After the war he gained a good degree in philosophy, politics and economics at Oxford, and then joined the Foreign Office in 1949. He served in Prague and Bonn during the 1950s, dealing with the detritus of the war and of the Cold War — he and his wife particularly enjoyed outwalking their overweight Czech "minders" in the Bohemian countryside.

Probably his happiest years in the Foreign Service were the four he spent in Tehran in the early 1960s. He made many Iranian friends and built up a small but distinguished collection of Islamic and pre-Islamic pottery and of Persian rugs and carpets. He and his wife also made many long expeditions into the Afghan hinterland, often in the company of their friend Wilfred Thesiger.

In 1969 Sykes retired from the Foreign Office as head of the policy and planning department at the early age of 47. He had decided that he wanted to concentrate on his main loves, farming and forestry. He transformed his small estate, planting many thousands of native hardwoods, and introducing new and rare species of plants and shrubs, as well as establishing several successful arboreta.

He was very generous in giving his time and expertise to local worthy causes. His ten years as chairman of the Devizes Museum converted that institution from running a chronic deficit into a relatively healthy surplus. He commissioned John Piper to create new stained-glass windows for the museum, and his championing of contemporary art assisted many other artists. For his own collection he recently bought a large number of paintings by Ray Atkins, and in the last week of his life he approved the maquette for an outdoor sculpture that he had commissioned from Anthony Griffiths to stand in woodland that he had himself planted.

He was a longstanding visitor at Wiltshire's Erlestoke Prison, serving a period as chairman of the Board of Visitors, and was also a member of the Museums and Galleries Commission, and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. In the late 1980s he served as High Sheriff of Wiltshire.

He married, in 1949, Mary, daughter of Sir Eric Phipps, who survives him together with their four sons.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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MAKING OVER A NOVEL FOR A NEW MEDIUM
FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
A Tale of Two Cities has got off with a bang on BBC1, which is all to the good after the heavy-going of such series as the recent Kipling and the current Sherlock Holmes. Adapting a novel for television requires more dexterity than is required to transpose a bundle of short stories, each of them compact in plot and capable of being contained within the limits of 45 minutes or so. One of the troubles of the Conan Doyle series is that some of them take much less time to read than they have been allowed on television ... Almost the only recognizable characteristics of Holmes in the present series so far have been the deerstalker and the cape.
Dickens is far more exacting to televise but, not for the first time, the BBC proved able to cope with him. If so long and elaborate a novel as A Tale of Two Cities is to be put across in 10 sessions of 25 minutes each there must be a good deal of compression; and there must also be some structural alterations. Dickens was a leisurely and voluble narrator, but such a style of story-telling is not amenable to the pace and impact of television. Miss Constance Cox, a most shrewd and experienced adapter, always sets out to dramatize rather than abridge a novel. She opened the tale with a scene which occurs much later on in the book, a device which was a tactical success. The fundamental causes of the French Revolution included, after all, such tyrannies and exactions as the infamous droit de seigneur, so she wisely began with one of the enormities by the cruel and lecherous St Evremonde and his brother.
By taking necessary liberties with the chronology of the novel Miss Cox can confine it within the exacting dimensions of television. Some elements of the great story which Dickens wrote have inevitably vanished in the process — some of the mystery, the forebodings, the magic. Those who miss his mastery in this version will probably want to go and read it again. Those who have never read it are probably better off with what they see in this lively serial. When television, the cinema or even the theatre adapt a distinguished novel for their own purposes they are liable to subtract more than they add. Never was this more true than in the current film Lord Jim. Conrad's cunning artifice in telling a story is, admittedly, beyond the scope of the mass-media.
The conclusion to be drawn, and it is a vital one, is that literature has an inviolable nature of its own. But that does not mean that there is no merit in these endeavours to adapt literature for another medium. There is indeed much merit in the many acceptable adaptations that have been broadcast both in sound and vision — such as Mr Polly, Lorna Doone and now, and one of the best, A Tale of Two Cities. Have they ever had a crack at Walter Scott? He is seldom read any more, even in schools and even in Scotland. In the sweat-box of television his novels would lose their obesity and retrieve our attention by a new look ...

ON THIS DAY
April 24, 1968
In the 30 years since this article appeared television — both BBC and commercial — has given us admirable adaptations of the novels of such writers as Dickens, Jane Austen, the Brontës and Wilkie Collins.

THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY APRIL 24 1998

NEWS

BT freed to take on cable firms

■ THE battle for who controls Britain's television screens hotted up as the Government announced plans to allow BT to compete with cable, and a big cable company outlined new services that will compete directly with BT throughout Britain.

Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade, fulfilled a manifesto promise by saying that the Government intended to give BT the right to compete with cable companies: it will be allowed to offer broadcast services .....Page 1

Crewe station drives ministers off rails

■ The dilapidated state of Crewe railway station has shamed transport officials into abandoning plans to use trains to take European ministers 40 miles to a conference discussing green transport today. Instead more than 250 politicians, their partners and officials will be taken by car to Chester....Page 1

Uranium on route

A small consignment of weapons-grade uranium, taken from a reactor in Georgia as part of a secret deal with Washington and London, appeared to be on its way to Britain ..... Page 1

Child-killer recaught

Two Belgian ministers resigned after Marc Dutroux, the alleged child-killer, escaped from a court building and led Belgian police on a two-hour motorway chase before being recaptured ... Page 1

Cook salutes MI5

Robin Cook paid an unprecedented tribute to Britain's intelligence services, praising MI6 and GCHQ for covert operations that have helped to track down terrorists ..... Page 2

Nanny on bail

An Australian nanny wasfreed on bail, less than 48 hours after the death of a six-month-old girl who allegedly suffered brain injuries while in her care ..... Page 5

Parade dispute

Government plans for avoiding conflict during Northern Ireland's marching season were in tatters after two members of the independent Parades Commission resigned ..... Page 6

Health warning

A campaign to teach the public that antibiotics are damaging health is to be launched by the Health Department ..... Page 8

Independents' day

Independent schools reported a near-record rise in enrolments. But much of the increase came from the last entrants under the Assisted Places Scheme....Page 11

Downs rejected

A campaign by green pressure groups to secure National Park status for the South Downs was rejected by the Countryside Commission ..... Page 13

Karadzic off hook

A secret plan to capture Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb President, was aborted last summer after a French officer was found to have held meetings with the indicted war criminal, it was claimed..... Page 14

Germans dump mark

The German Parliament overwhelmingly approved a decision to swap the mark for a new European currency ..... Page 16

Human rights doubts

Wang Lingyun, mother of the dissident student leader Wang Dan newly released from jail, said the move was not an indication that human rights in China had improved..... Page 17

Netanyahu marches

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, shrugged off domestic criticism and led the 8,000-strong March of the Living to Auschwitz death camp in Poland..... Page 19

All change as nurses vote for trousers

■ Traditional nurses' uniforms were consigned to history when the Royal College of Nursing annual congress voted to demand short-sleeved tops and comfortable trousers. Individual hospitals will be able to choose colours and badges so that they are distinctive, but the nurses will insist they are supplied with comfortable and safe clothes in future..... Page 9

ASHLEY COOMBES



Tony and Cherie Blair with Katy Hill of *Blue Peter* at the Globe Theatre, London, for an event to mark World Book Day yesterday

BUSINESS

Bank: The Bank of England is to consider bringing forward the publication of the minutes of Monetary Policy Committee meetings after an apparent leak of the voting details from the last meeting sent the pound sprawling..... Page 27

Vauxhall: Nick Reilly, the Vauxhall chairman, has claimed victory in securing the future of the Luton plant..... Page 27

ICI: The financial results of ICI are expected to be reported in euros after monetary union takes effect in January..... Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 33.0 to close at 5898.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 106.2 to 105.9 after a fall from $1.6750 to $1.6650 and from DM3.0013 to DM2.9945..... Page 30

SPORT

Football: Security is to be reviewed at Wembley Stadium as a result of the assault by a supporter on Paul Ince after England's game against Portugal..... Page 52

Cricket: England will play five Test matches and up to 13 one-day internationals in Australia next winter, as well as entering tournaments in Bangladesh and Sharjah... Page 48

Tennis: Pete Sampras was heavily defeated by Fabrice Santoro in the Monte Carlo Open, leaving Petr Korda a gilt-edged chance to top the world rankings..... Page 46

Racing: Leighton Aspell, one of three National Hunt jockeys arrested by police investigating race-fixing allegations, will be released from bail without further questioning ..... Page 52

ARTS

Vital organs: "Wednesday was a sad day not only for the abbey, but for all who take pride in Anglican music" — Richard Morrison looks beyond the petty wars at Westminster Abbey ..... Page 35

Aural asssault: This summer the big record labels are planning a blitz to push some of the huge American rock bands who have failed to make it in Britain ..... Page 36

Beyond Bond: He has written the themes for the Bond films and countless others, but now John Barry has written the music of his own life..... Page 37

Dance party: Britain's oldest dance company, the Rambert, has unveiled an ambitious three-year plan to rewrite its future in the run-up to its 75th anniversary ..... Page 38

FEATURES

Feeling skirty: Jane Shilling solves the problem of her summer wardrobe with a single purchase — a knee-length skirt with a little frill ..... Page 20

Literary lounger: "Lying on the sofa, bag of chips, pack of cigarettes, a good soap on the telly ... my idea of heaven." Beryl Bainbridge on surviving the writing game..... Page 21

Dirty tactics: Joe Joseph on the new down-to-earth perfumes for men..... Page 21

MEDIA

Tomorrow the world: Rupert Gavin, the new chief executive of BBC Worldwide, tells Raymond Snoddy of his plans for a commercial revolution..... Page 40

EDUCATION

Barefoot wonders: The school where barefoot children come top of the exam tables ..... Page 44

Home help: David Blunkett on how he plans to help children with their homework ..... Page 44

THE PAPERS

The Israelis have no reason to trust the British or any other Europeans, whose conduct toward Israel has long been infamous. And not just toward Israel. When one hears elegant phrases about European peace initiatives, it's worth reflecting on the bloody fate of the sovereign state of Bosnia.... — *New York Post*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: How to cultivate a woodland atmosphere (*Wild About the Garden*, C4, 5pm). **Review:** Paul Hoggart on Stephanie Cole's virtuoso performance in *Keeping Mum* (BBC1) ..... Pages 50, 51

OPINION

Out of tune

To suggest dishonesty in this austere president of the Royal College of Organists is an act of exaggeration so dramatic as to suggest a broader agenda..... Page 23

Hide and not seek

From the start of the Balkan conflicts, France has played an ambiguous role..... Page 23

Millennium bugs

No one wants a return to the days when lives could be destroyed by illnesses that are easily treated now ..... Page 23

COLUMNS

PHILIP HOWARD

How do you feel about adopting a statue? You can already adopt an animal (or if you are a cheapskate, a fish) at the zoo, a cliché or a hairstyle. Now, as the Albert Memorial starts to emerge from the most familiar tin condom in London, English Heritage is inviting us to adopt one of the memorial's statues..... Page 22

JOHN LLOYD

Robin Cook proposed an ethical dimension to foreign policy. For a year now, he has moved as jauntily as he could between the despairing pessimism of a Left ... and the pessimism of the Right ... Mr Cook claimed this week to have found a "third way" between them — between, as he glibly put it, "row and kow-tow"..... Page 22

MATTHEW PARRIS

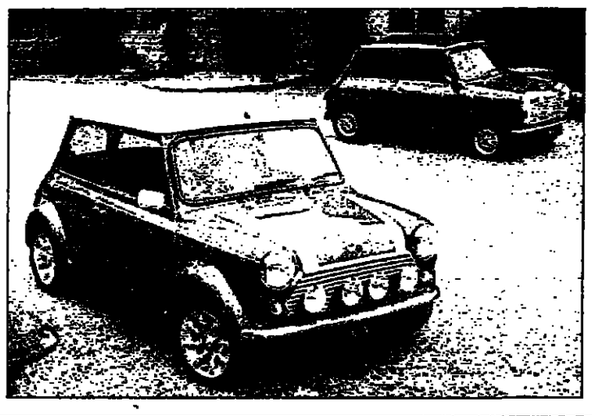
Southern Ireland used to be as Ian Paisley and Orange folk-memory still conceive it: a tinpot place for Father Teds; land of hot Catholicism, poverty, land-hunger and decline. However, that Eire is vanishing..... Page 22

OBITUARIES

Constantine Karamanlis, Greek Prime Minister; **Bonar Sykes**, diplomat ..... Page 25

LETTERS

Supermarkets and food prices; Westminster organist; Princess of Wales's death; detention centres..... Page 23



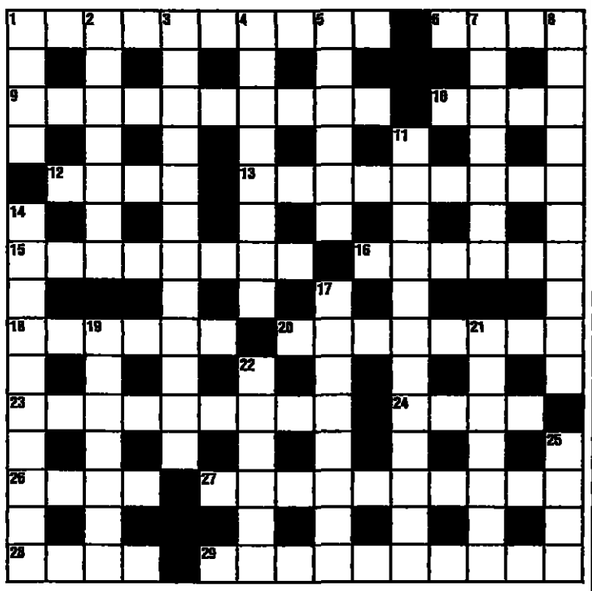
TOMORROW

IN THE SATURDAY TIMES

■ WIN A MINI
Three new Minis to be won — and 900 pairs of tickets for a great night out

■ WHITE KNUCKLES
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THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,774



ACROSS

1 Bird's perch, perhaps, set between rulers (10).
6 Moor was killed — that's terrible (4).
9 Unable to afford passage, serve amidships in ungodly surroundings (10).
10 So gang leader abandons gangsters (4).
12 Part of shoe that meant the world to Hans Sachs? (4).
13 Literary family member appears to love new suit (3,4,2).
15 Expected to fall early in competition, not having been drilled (8).
16 Flinch from requirement for wedding in church (6).
18 Academic stream strive endlessly to get university place (6).
20 Tornado, perhaps, seen to twist one way (8).
23 Stop people going to hell (9).
24 March girl across river in military group (4).
26 Superior rejected Derby, say, for religious settlement (4).
27 Ceremonial officer became rare after reorganisation (4-6).
28 Demolish an oriental paradox (4).
29 Breaking down on tenth lap in athletics competition (10).

DOWN

1 In danger, king raised dagger (4).
2 Writer sent up hacks, as boys related (7).
3 Option that may spoil a hitherto clear round (5,7).
4 Maid has unsettled rest, tucking in legs (8).
5 Justice is in investors' interest (6).
7 Level of responsibility staggered fighting units (7).
8 City fails to pull in financial supporter (3,7).
11 No one can come in to land, say, ahead of him (4,3).
14 Concussed wife-beater taken down (5-5).
17 Happily try, but extremely dim (8).
19 As a doctor, order to take up port (7).
21 Dim potential in land-locked sea for him? (7).
22 Six against one — that's sounding lively (6).
25 Ibsen's play mostly indigestible stuff (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

Solution to Puzzle No 20773

A	N	I	M	A	T	E	D		I	M	P	I	S	H
U		V		P		L		O		N		A		T
E	A	S	P	O	O	N		P	U	R	S	E	R	
O		N		A		C		S		T		C		T
		D	R	A	U	G	H	T	H	O	R	S	E	
P		R		A		T		O			I		B	
O	V	E	R	T		I	R	R	I	T	A	B	L	E
R		P		U		O		T		A		I		E
T	R	A	N	S	O	N	I	C		K	I	N	G	S
A		R			I		O		T		G		T	
R	E	A	D	J	U	S	T	M	E	N	T			
T		T		U		T		M		G		O		A
H	A	I	R	D	O		T	O	M	O	R	R	O	W
U		O		G			N		F		A		A	
R	U	N	N	E	R		U	S	E	F	U	L	L	Y

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Honington, Suffolk, 15C (64F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Fair Isle, 0.71in; highest sunshine: Tiree Inner Hebrides, 6.8hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** rain over Northern Ireland, western Scotland, Wales and the west and southwest of England will quickly spread eastwards, turning heavy for a while. Brighter, showery weather will follow in Northern Ireland, Wales, northwest England and southwest Scotland. Tonight will be mild but wet and murky in most areas.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, E England, Central N England, NE England:** dry at first, rain by lunchtime turning drizzly later. Moderate to fresh southwesterly wind. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** overcast and wet this morning, rain easing off this afternoon. Fog patches over exposed coasts and hills. Moderate to fresh southwesterly wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** dry and bright at first, rain by midday, clearing again to evening sunshine. Freshening southerly wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** dull, windy and wet with hill and coastal fog. Sunny spells and showers this afternoon, some heavy. Strong south to southwest wind. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Northern Ireland:** rain clearing to sunny spells and scattered showers, some heavy. Strong southerly wind, veering fresh southwesterly. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Irish Republic:** bright intervals, showers becoming more frequent in the west and north. Wind fresh, southwesterly. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Outlook:** many eastern and southern areas wet tomorrow, elsewhere brighter but with showers, some heavy. On Sunday, sunny spells and sharp showers everywhere.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.4	0.49	13	55	r	Leeds	3.8	0.70	17	63	r
Anglesey	0.1	0.07	12	54	r	Lerwick	-	0.23	7	45	r
Aspatria	5.4	0.26	14	57	sh	Leuchars	4.6	0.19	14	57	tg
Aviemore	3.3	0.13	13	55	sh	Littlehampton	X				
Belfast	0.6	0.11	13	55	r	London	1.3	0.05	15	59	r
Birmingham	0.6	0.36	11	52	r	Lowestoft	4.7	0.01	15	59	s
Bognor R	1.8	0.31	13	55	r	Manchester	1.5	0.31	13	55	r
Bournem'th	0.6	0.24	12	54	r	Margate	2.9	0.04	16	61	r
Bristol	1.2	0.22	14	57	r	Minehead	X				
Buxton	2.1	0.48	13	55	r	Morecambe	4.1	0.39	15	59	r
Cardiff	X	0.39	15	59	r	Newcastle	2.4	0.50	15	59	c
Clacton	6.2	X	12	54	r	Newquay	X				
Cleethorpes	4.1	0.16	17	63	b	Norwich	3.3	0.01	17	63	b
Colwyn Bay	2.4	0.05	14	57	c	Oxford	0.9	0.33	12	54	r
Cromer	5.4	0.04	17	63	b	Penzance	X	0.37	14	57	r
Dunbar	X					Poole	0.7	0.27	13	55	r
Eastbourne	2.5	0.16	14	57	r	Prestatyn	X	0.12	13	55	r
Edinburgh	6.3	0.26	15	59	sh	Ross on Wye	1.6	0.81	12	54	r
Eskdalemuir	2.2	0.65	13	55	b	Salcombe	2.0	0.52	13	55	sh
Exmouth	0.9	0.41	14	57	r	Seaton Snd	2.1	0.28	14	57	b
Falmouth	X					Scarboro'	1.6	0.33	14	57	b
Fishguard	1.5	0.17	13	55	r	Shrewsbury	1.5	0.28	12	54	r
Folkestone	4.0	0.07	11	52	r	Skegness	5.5	0.06	15	59	c
Glasgow	2.2	0.17	14	57	sh	Southend	X				
Guernsey	-	0.29	16	61	r	Southport	X				
Hastings	2.5	0.17	14	57	r	Southsea	1.0	0.10	13	55	r
Hayling I.	1.7	0.20	11	52	r	Stornoway	X				
Herne Bay	X					Swanage	1.9	0.26	12	54	sh
Hove	1.8	0.31	13	55	r	Teignmouth	0.3	0.56	15	59	r
Hunstanton	4.6	0.14	17	63	r	Tenby	1.7	0.41	12	54	r
Isle of Man	0.2	0.07	12	54	c	Tiree	6.8	0.31	12	54	s
Isle-of-Wight	3.3	0.33	11	52	r	Torquay	1.5	0.52	15	59	b
Jersey	2.8	0.24	13	55	r	Tynemouth	.	0.27	12	54	sh
Kinloss	6.1	0.01	17	63	b	Weston s Mare	X				

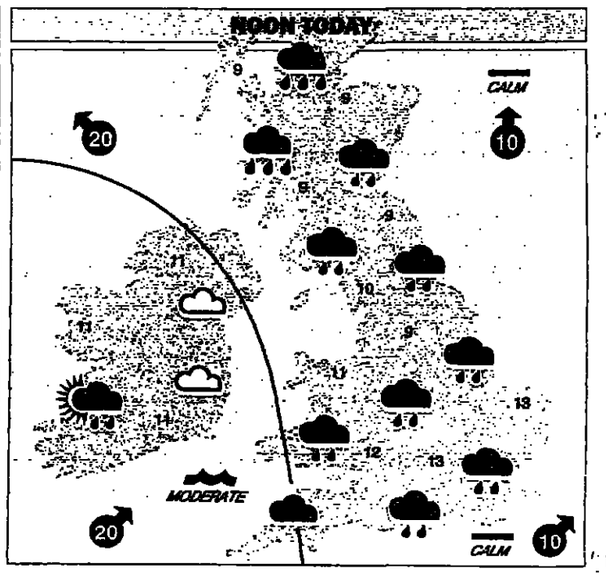
ABROAD

Ajaccio	19	66	s	Cologne	21	70	t	Luxor	31	88	s
Akrotiri	19	66	s	Corfu	20	68	s	Madrid	14	57	f
Alex'dria	X			C'phagn	9	48	f	Majorca	16	61	r
Algiers	18	64	c	Dublin	10	50	r	Malaga	20	68	c
Amst'dm	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	16	61	t	Malta	20	68	s
Athens	21	70	f	Faro	19	66	t	Malb'rne	15	59	f
B Aires	23	73	t	Florence	20	68	s	Mexico C	X		
Bahrain	34	93	f	Frankfurt	18	64	s	Miami	27	81	s
Bangkok	33	91	f	Funchal	19	66	c	Milan	21	70	s
Barbados	X			Geneva	18	64	s	Montreal	19	66	s
Barcelona	16	61	t	Gibraltar	16	61	t	Moscow	13	55	s
Beijing	15	59	c	Helsinki	13	55	f	Munich	16	61	f
Beirut	19	66	f	Hong K	29	84	c	N Delhi	35	95	s
Belgrade	15	59	t	Innsbruck	19	66	s	N York	18	64	s
Berlin	14	57	f	Istanbul	12	54	r	Nairobi	24	75	s
Bermuda	23	73	t	Jeddah	31	88	s	Naples	21	70	s
Biarritz	19	66	s	Jo'burg	22	72	s	Nice	17	63	s
Bordo'x	22	72	s	Karachi	X			Oslo	13	55	c
Brussels	20	68	c	L Angels	17	63	s	Paris	23	73	s
Budapst	14	57	f	L Palmas	23	73	s	Perth	23	73	f
Cairo	24	75	s	La Toquet	21	70	s	Prague	13	55	f
Cape Tn	15	59	f	Lisbon	16	61	t	Reykjavik	10	50	f
Ch'church	17	63	fl	Locarno	19	66	s	Rhodes	19	66	s
Chicago	16	61	s	Luxembg	18	64	s	Rio de J	26	79	s

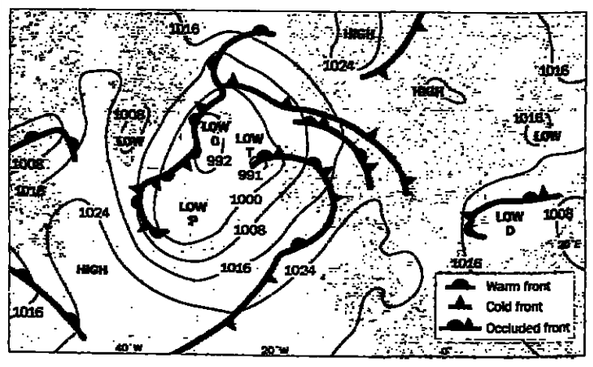
Luxor	31	88	s	Riyadh	38	100	s
Madrid	14	57	f	Rome	19	66	s
Majorca	16	61	r	S Pr'isco	21	70	s
Malaga	20	68	c	Salzburg	15	59	f
Malta	20	68	s	Santiago	18	64	s
Malb'rne	15	59	f	Seoul	24	76	r
Mexico C	X			Sing'por	25	77	t
Miami	27	81	s	St'kholm	6	43	c
Milan	21	70	s	Strasb'rg	20	68	s
Montreal	19	66	s	Sydney	17	63	r
Moscow	13	55	s	Tangier	17	63	r
Munich	16	61	f	Tel Aviv	21	70	c
N Delhi	35	95	s	Tenerife	24	75	s
N York	18	64	s	Tokyo	25	77	s
Nairobi	24	75	s	Toronto	17	63	s
Naples	21	70	s	Tunis	18	64	r
Nice	17	63	s	Valencia	20	68	c
Oslo	13	55	c	Vanc'ver	12	54	s
Paris	23	73	s	Venice	17	63	s
Perth	23	73	f	Vienna	15	59	f
Prague	13	55	f	Warsaw	12	54	c
Reykjavik	10	50	f	Wash'ton	X		
Rhodes	19	66	s	Wel'ngton	15	59	X
Rio de J	26	79	s	Zurich	18	64	s

Temperatures at midday local time Wednesday. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low T will move N, low O will remain slow-moving and low P will move E, all with little change. Low D should move SE and fill



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	11:24	4.1	-	-	Liverpool	8.15	9.2	9:45	9.3
Avonmouth	5:08	12.8	5:36	13.0	London Bridge	-	-	12:05	7.1
Belfast	8:55	3.3	9.33	3.3	Lowestoft	7.45	2.3	7.36	2.4
Cardiff	4:52	11.8	5:22	12.0	Margate	10:11	4.7	10:15	4.7
Devonport	3:31	5.2	4:06	5.5	Milford Haven	4:08	6.6	4:37	6.7
Dover	9:03	6.4	9:27	6.6	Newquay	3:04	6.6	3:31	6.7
Dublin	9:36	4.0	10:14	4.1	Oban	3:57	3.8	4:24	3.6
Falmouth	3:02	5.0	3.37	5.1	Penzance	2:30	5.3	3:00	5.3
Greenock	10:42	3.3	11.03	3.2	Portland	4:34	1.8	5:11	1.9
Harwich	9.56	3.9	10:17	3.8	Portsmouth	9.25	4.4	9:54	4.7
Holyhead	8:20	5.5	8.53	5.5	Shoreham	9:11	5.9	9:39	6.3
Hull (Albert D)	4.24	8.2	4.50	8.4	Southampton	8:45	4.4	9:15	4.6
Ilfracombe	3:56	8.8	4.24	8.9	Swansea	4:18	9.2	4:48	9.3
King's Lynn	4:31	6.2	4:35	6.5	Tees	1:35	5.2	1:46	5.4
Leith	0.27	5.2	12:42	5.3	Walton-On-Naze	9:53	4.1	10:10	4.0

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.47 am
Sun sets: 8.12 pm
Moon sets 5.31 pm
Moon rises 5.07 pm

London 8.12 pm to 5.45 am
Bristol 8.21 pm to 5.55 am
Edinburgh 8.37 pm to 5.44 am
Manchester 8.26 pm to 5.48 am
Penzance 8.30 pm to 6.10 am

New moon April 26

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THE TIMES 2

FRIDAY APRIL 24 1998

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

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A welter of sex and violence in the clash of the soaps
PAGES 39-42

HODDLE PUTS HIS FAITH IN SHEARER
SPORT 45-52

Victory for Reilly as Vauxhall accepts pay deal

BY FRASER NELSON AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

NICK REILLY, the Vauxhall chairman who offered to forgo his £160,000 salary if his workers accepted a radical pay deal, yesterday claimed victory in securing the future of the Luton plant.

The company's 9,800 UK workers have voted to accept a three-year package — drawn up by Mr Reilly — which will link their salaries to the strength of the pound against the mark. The package also received backing from Gordon Brown who said the Government was keen to encourage deals of this type. However, the Chancellor again ruled out government intervention to curb the strength of the pound, and called on industry to improve its overall productivity levels.

General Motors, Vauxhall's parent, had promised to manufacture the new Vectra in Luton and invest more than £200 million in the plant only if the deal was accepted. Mr Reilly said: "The threat has now been lifted. We can now offer job security for our workforce along with good pay and conditions."

Workers will be given a 3.5 per cent rise this year — below the industry average of 4.5 per cent. Next year, their salaries will rise 3 per cent and then in line with inflation in 2000. If the pound trades below DM2.70 in three years' time, workers will enjoy an extra 0.5 per cent rise. The deal is believed to be the first of its kind in UK industry.

The Chancellor told the Commons that he understood the problems manufacturers face with the strong pound but insisted he would not be deflected from his policies to ensure long-term stability: "What we are not going to get into is a policy of continuously long-term devaluing the pound."

His comments received support from Sir Colin Marshall, President of the Confederation of British Industry. Sir Colin told a CBI dinner that a productivity gap existed between the UK and France and Germany and that government and business needed to tackle this problem as well as trying to cope with the strong pound.

Union leaders also weighed into the productivity debate, publishing research showing that recent productivity gains in the UK have largely been achieved by longer hours, and not improved efficiency.

The TUC said British workers work on average 9 per cent longer than their German counterparts and 5 per cent longer than French workers. Taking these hours into account, Britain has the second worse productivity rate among the G7 nations, lagging some 20 per cent behind France and Germany in terms of productivity per hour.

The research formed part of a submission to the Government ahead of the G8 conference next month in Birmingham. International union leaders met Tony Blair to put their case for improving productivity and job creation.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5898.1	(-33.0)
Yield	2.78%	
FTSE All share	2777.09	(-8.49)
Nikkei	15781.69	(+0.15)
New York:		
Dow Jones	9196.15	(+19.43)*
S&P Composite	1126.96	(-3.58)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	102⅛*	(102⅜)
Yield	5.98%*	(5.97%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7⅝%	(7⅛%)
Lifte long gilt future (Jun)	108²⁄₃₂	(108¹⁷⁄₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6858*	(1.6714)
London:		
$	1.6648	(1.6749)
DM	2.9918	(3.0008)
FFr	10.0480	(10.0840)
SFr	2.4802	(2.4857)
Yen	216.46	(218.73)
£ Index	105.9	(106.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.8010*	(1.7946)
FFr	6.0375*	(6.0150)
SFr	1.4908*	(1.4862)
Yen	130.22*	(130.57)
$ Index	109.1	(109.0)

Tokyo close Yen 130.58

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul)	$14.40	($14.40)

GOLD

London close	$312.95	($313.05)

* denotes midday trading price

ICI is likely to report results in euros

BY CARL MORTISHED

ICI is likely to shift to reporting its financial results in euros. The chemicals company, which yesterday reported a 34 per cent rise in profit before tax in the first quarter, is requiring its suppliers to price in the euro when monetary union takes effect in January.

Speaking at ICI's annual meeting, Sir Ronald Hampel, chairman, said that ICI expected to benefit from greater price transparency between suppliers using a common currency. He said: "We intend to take full benefit of suppliers across Europe pricing in euros from day one."

Sir Ronald said that ICI was absolutely on schedule in dealing with the millennium bug problem.

ICI's new businesses, National Starch and Quest, raised their profits 10 per cent in constant currencies in the first quarter, but paints failed to make any improvment. Industrial chemicals continued to be affected by the strong pound and weak prices.

ICI is shortly expected to reach its target of completing £3 billion in disposals, two years ahead of schedule. The remaining bulk chemicals operation should be sold by the end of the year. Interested parties include Huntsman, the private American chemicals group, which is building market share in polystyrene. BP may also bid.

In the three months to March 31, ICI's profit before tax and exceptionals rose from £65 million to £87 million, with acquisitions and disposals accounting for three quarters of the increase.

Tempus, page 30

Goodhart vote 'switch' prompts sterling dive

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY AND JANET BUSH

THE Bank of England is to consider bringing forward the publication of the minutes of Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meetings after an apparent leak of the voting details from the last meeting sent the pound sprawling on the foreign exchanges.

The Bank yesterday refused to confirm or deny a report that Charles Goodhart, one of the outside members of the committee, had switched his vote to oppose a rise at the April meeting. The Bank would also not comment on whether it was planning to hold an inquiry.

A change of sides by Mr Goodhart would leave the committee with a clear-cut five to three majority against a rate rise, after two months when the Committee was evenly split and only the casting vote of Eddie George, Governor of the Bank, prevented an increase.

The City interpreted the report as further evidence that the Bank doves are winning the interest rate debate and that rates have almost certainly peaked. Even when John Vickers, the Bank's new executive director of monetary analysis, becomes the committee's final member in June, it will not threaten the doves' majority.

The report, coupled with weaker than expected retail sales, accelerated the pound's decline on foreign exchanges in early trading. At one stage the pound slid more than two pfennigs to touch an eight-week low of DM2.9773. However, Gordon Brown's reassertion that he would not intervene to curb the high pound provided sterling with some support later in the day. The pound closed down half a pfennig at DM2.9945 while sterling's trade-weighted index fell 0.3 to 105.9.

The fall in sterling also provided a boost for exporter stocks. British Steel, which has repeatedly highlighted the damage being inflicted by the strong pound, closed up 7½p at 159¾p while TI Group, Siebe and BBA also posted healthy gains.

However, the FTSE 100 closed down 33 points at 5898.1 as other European markets lost ground and index futures fell.

At present, the Bank publishes the MPC minutes about six weeks after the monthly meeting in order to try to avoid excessive market speculation about the contents of the meeting. However, after yesterday's events there is a growing feeling that the Bank will bring forward the publication to prevent further speculation of this kind.

The Treasury Select Committee has already raised the issue with the Bank, and several key Bank insiders and the Treasury are also believed to favour a cut in the publication time. The Bank's only legal requirement is to produce the minutes within six weeks.

The March retail sales data, which were also published yesterday, showed only a modest recovery after February's sharp fall. Sales volumes rose at a monthly rate of 0.3 per cent leaving the annual rate of growth at 4.1 per cent — the lowest since September when sales were hit by the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Clothing and footwear sales suffered the sharpest fall, sliding 1.1 per cent in the month. Food sales, however, rose 0.5 per cent while household goods sales also showed some improvement. The less volatile three-monthly rate showed annual growth slowing from 5.5 per cent to 5 per cent.

Analysts cautioned that some of the relative weakness in the figures could be attributed to the late Easter, although the wet weather this month is thought to have again hurt non-food sales. Simon Briscoe, director of research at Nikko Europe, added that the inflation outlook was encouraging with the clothing and footwear sector. It showed the largest price rises in recent months, and the biggest decline in sales.

Commentary, page 29



Charles Goodhart is said to have switched from supporting a rate rise to opposing an increase

GUS bid for Argos hangs in balance

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

WITH less than 24 hours to go, the fate of Great Universal Stores' £1.9 billion hostile cash bid for Argos was still hanging in the balance last night.

Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, chairman of GUS, was able to take heart from the last-minute public support of Standard Life, which speaks for 2.1 per cent of Argos's shares. However, Jim Cox, director at Schroders Investment Management, which holds the key 15 per cent stake, would not say which way he intends to go.

Standard Life, the only institutional investor to come out in support of GUS, said that it has accepted the 650p-a-share bid and "supports GUS's management". The Prudential and fund managers Baillie Gifford, who between them hold more than 13 per cent of Argos, said this week that they would back Argos.

The GUS bid has been widely supported by retail analysts, who nonetheless acknowledge that Stuart Rose, the former Burton executive recruited to replace Mike Smith, who is seriously ill, has done a good job defending Argos.

Both sides acknowledge that they need the support of Schroders in order to succeed.

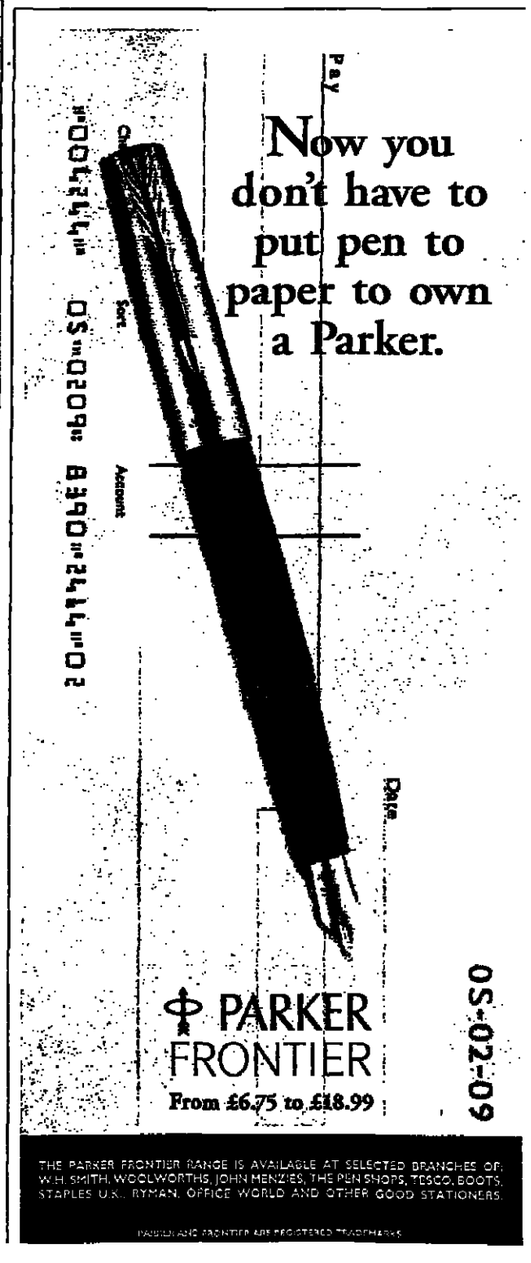
The bid closes at 1pm today.

Bid writ

Mellon Bank responded to the $24 billion (£14.4 billion) hostile bid from Bank of New York by suing its rival over the use of confidential documents. Mellon has applied for an injunction to stop the bid it rejected on Wednesday. Page 28

Caution

More than £200 million was wiped off the market value of Amvescap, the fund manager, after it issued a cautious statement on the health of its core markets. Shares in the company dropped by about 10 per cent at one stage. Page 29, Tempus 30



Pay bonanza despite Laura Ashley losses

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM, RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

THE new chief executive at Laura Ashley, the struggling clothing retailer, is receiving a pay package worth at least £297,000, the company revealed yesterday.

David Hoare, who took over from Ann Iverson late last year, is being paid a salary of £200,000. £22,000 in cash in lieu of a company car and a pension contribution of £75,000. He will also be granted options, although details of these are still being negotiated with the company. Unlike his predecessor, he will not be entitled to any bonuses. He intends to invest half his salary in the company.

Details of the board's salaries were contained in a circular sent to shareholders, which laid out the terms for the £43.7 million investment in the company being made by MUI, the Malaysian industrial group that will end up owning 40 per cent of the group.



Thornton: non-executive

The controversial Ms Iverson received a £450,000 payoff when she left the company, and was paid £1 million in her last year at Laura Ashley in salary and bonuses, despite the company's fall into loss. Last week the company revealed that it had made a pre-tax loss of £49.3 million.

Richard Pennycook, the finance director, will receive a remuneration package worth at least £174,000, plus up to £12,000 in the first year to cover his rent. He has also been granted 700,000 options at the market price, 250,000 at 100p and 250,000 at 150p. The current share price is 30½p.

Victoria Egan, who works for MUI and who will be joining Laura Ashley as Mr Hoare's deputy, will be paid at least £220,000 while MUI's Paul Ng, who is to become the head of Laura Ashley's North American business, will be paid $220,000.

The chairman, John Thornton, and Sir Bernard Ashley, co-founder, will be paid £30,000 as non-executive directors.

Raisman 'told in May of Biotech concerns'

BY PAUL DURMAN

JOHN RAISMAN, the non-executive chairman of British Biotech, was alerted to concerns about the progress of the company's Zacutex drug trials last May, according to Andrew Millar, who was director of clinical research until he was sacked on Monday.

Dr Millar called Mr Raisman at home a couple of weeks after British Biotech learnt that the European Medicines Evaluation Agency had five "major objections" to the data submitted to support the marketing approval of the pancreatitis drug.

According to Dr Millar's notes, Mr Raisman sought to reassure him and expressed his confidence in the judgment of Keith McCullagh, chief executive.

A British Biotech spokesman said the company was unaware that Dr Millar had ever raised any concern of substance with the progress of Zacutex.

The EMEA letter is said to have caused consternation among British Biotech's researchers — heightened when two upbeat press releases on May 12 prompted the *Financial Times* to say: "These are momentous days for British Biotech." Dr Millar and other directors "told McCullagh that the FT article destroyed our credibility to negotiate with the regulators who would think we were wide and naive, knowing that we had received their negative reply only a few days before".

Management discussed making a corrective statement to the Stock Exchange or writing to the FT, but could not reach agreement on what to do. Two months later, problems with US trials of Zacutex prompted British Biotech to expand the trial from 450 to 1,500 patients.

In February, the EMEA said it would not approve Zacutex without seeing US trial data.

Other industry executives are surprised by British Biotech's handling of the EMEA letter. One said: "The analysts were quite convinced that there was a good chance [of the drug receiving European approval]. [The EMEA letter] gives a clear indication that there was every sign known to the company that that was not going to be the case."

Despite the stream of disclosures this week, including the Securities & Exchange Commission investigation into allegedly misleading press releases, the spokesman said the non-executive directors retained their faith in the executive management and in Dr McCullagh.

Commentary, page 29

Mellon sues rival in $24bn bank takeover battle

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

MELLON BANK has responded to the $24 billion hostile takeover bid from Bank of New York by suing its rival over the use of confidential documents. Mellon, based in Pittsburgh, has applied for an injunction to stop the bid it rejected on Wednesday.

The two banks had been negotiating a merger until four months ago when talks broke down over who should lead the combined group. Mellon Bank said last night that Bank of New York's bid was based on information made available during the negotiations. It claimed that documents were made available on the understanding they could only be used for a friendly deal.

The two banks are set to meet in court but a hearing date has not yet been set. Mellon alleges that Bank of New York "has embarked upon a scheme to acquire Mellon on a non-consensual basis".

The suit alleges that Mellon only handed over confidential information after Bank of New York gave a specific undertaking last December that discussions "would only concern the possibility of a consensual merger of equals".

Bank of New York did not have an immediate response to the suit but it said it had purchased a significant number of Mellon shares. The stake is believed to be just short of the 5 per cent level, above which buyers must reveal their intentions to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Mellon has been preparing the suit since Monday when it was asked by Bank of New York to discuss a bid. The Mellon board declined to meet Bank of New York executives and gathered its lawyers, fearing that Bank of New York would live up to its reputation as one of the few banks willing to make a hostile bid for a competitor.

The suit alleges that Bank of New York "has taken, is taking, and in the future will take steps to acquire Mellon through a hostile offer or other similar methods."

The tone of the legal complaint shows just how much Mellon Bank distrusts Bank of New York. While this may not bode well for an eventual friendly deal between the two, Mellon Bank may now turn to a "white knight".

Bank of New York's hostile bid is the biggest of its kind in the banking history. US banking has been caught up in an unprecedented merger frenzy over recent months including a $146 billion tie-up of Citicorp and Travelers Group, the world's biggest deal, two weeks ago.

DENZIL McNEELANCE



Oil for the future: Tom Cross, chief executive of Dana Petroleum, reduced losses from £890,000 to £324,000 in the year to December 31. Losses fell from 0.21p to 0.13p and there is no dividend. Mr Cross said: "1997 has positioned Dana for strong growth."

Sedgwick braced for £35m hit

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

SEDGWICK GROUP gave warning yesterday that plans to widen the scope of the investigation into personal pensions mis-selling would cost it at least £35 million.

Sedgwick said it had very few of the high-priority pension mis-selling cases but did have 25,000 pension transfers to review, where people had transferred their company pension benefits to a personal pension when they left the service of their employer.

The group said it would be treating the £35 million as an exceptional item, adding that "the potential exists, however, for the figure to be materially exceeded". Although it supported the pensions review, Sedgwick said "the consultation document throws up serious concerns for the independent financial advisory sector and the life industry as a whole".

Sedgwick's share price fell 3½p to 153½p.

Siemens to restructure IT divisions

BY CARL MORTISHED

SIEMENS, the German electronics group, has embarked on an important restructuring of its IT and communication businesses in a bid to improve profits at the troubled Siemens Nixdorf operation. The deal will bring one of Asia's biggest personal computer makers into alliance with Europe's largest electronics groups.

Siemens is quitting the low-margin and high-volume business of making personal computers. Three new divisions are being created that will weld the public and private telecom equipment businesses of Siemens with its expertise in information technology.

As reported in *The Times* yesterday, Siemens has agreed to hand over its PC factory in Augsburg, Germany to Acer, the Taiwanese company.

According to a memorandum of understanding signed by the two companies, Acer will take over manufacturing but Siemens will continue to market products under the Siemens Nixdorf brand. The terms of the transfer of the plant and its 2,000 staff have yet to be agreed.

Airbus puts a price on new aircraft

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

AIRBUS INDUSTRIES predicts that the world's main airlines will need to buy 13,600 new aircraft worth $1.2 trillion (£718 billion) over the next 20 years to meet growing demand for air travel and to replace older aircraft.

In its annual *Global Market Forecast*, the European consortium said that demand for air travel was expected to almost triple in the next 20 years and new orders were expected to be worth an average of $60 billion a year.

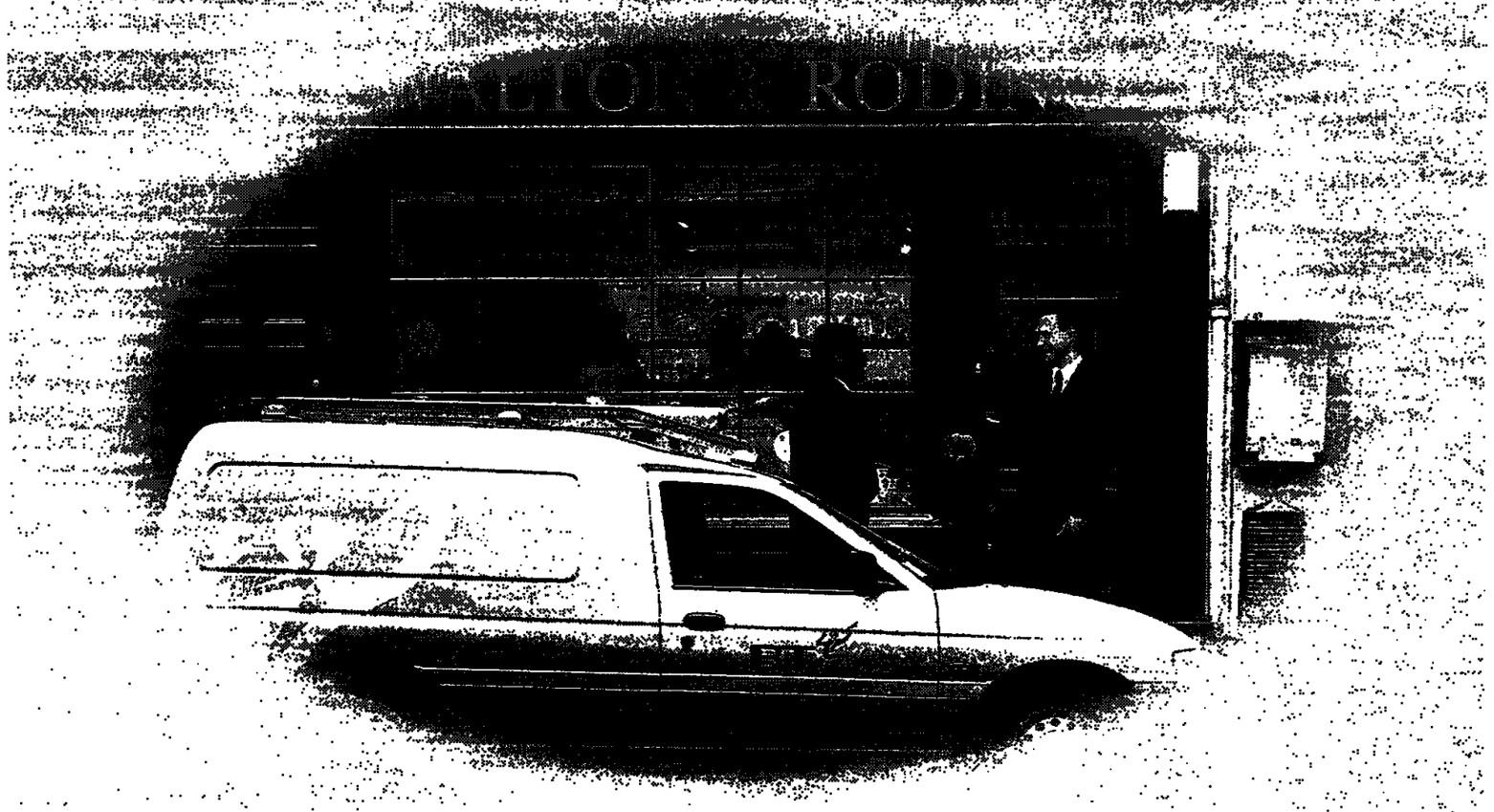
Airbus said that traffic growth would be stronger in the first ten years, rising 5.3 per cent annually, followed by growth of 4.8 per cent in the second decade up to 2017.

As a result, the world's 271 main airlines were likely to need to acquire a total of more than 16,700 new and used airliners during that period of which 13,600 were likely to be new, with the remaining 3,100 either secondhand or aircraft coming off operating leases.

Airbus is made up of French state-owned Aerospatiale, British Aerospace, Daimler-Benz and Construcciones Aeronauticas SA, of Spain.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Balpa wants rethink on TTG staff shares

BALPA, the pilots' union threatening to disrupt the flotation of Thomson Travel Group by taking industrial action over pay and job security, has called on TTG to makes its employee share scheme more generous. The union comprises 80 per cent of pilots working for Britannia Airways, TTG's own charter airline.

It claimed that the top nine executives in TTG would receive share options 30 times more generous that those offered to the rest of the 14,000 employees. Before the prospectus was published this week Balpa had proposed a loyalty scheme giving all staff an average of £500 in free shares.

F&C winds up trust

FOREIGN & COLONIAL, the fund manager, yesterday said it was winding up its £104 million German investment trust to concentrate on a pan-European brief. It is offering the 3,500 shareholders and warrantholders the chance to exchange their investment for cash or shares in the £350 million F&C Eurotrust investment trust. Directors of the German trust said the launch of a European single currency, scheduled for January 1, was the key reason for the proposals.

Microsoft success fear

MICROSOFT has told Wall Street that it may be becoming a victim of its own success. The software house reported a 28 per cent rise in quarterly profits but said that future growth will be slowing down. Microsoft earned $1.34 billion in the three months to March 31, up from $1.04 billion. Revenue rose to $3.8 billion from $3.2 billion. The combination of market saturation in Europe and America, and economic problems in Asia is worrying the company.

Grabiner moves in

STEPHEN GRABINER yesterday began his first day as chief executive of British Digital Broadcasting. Lord Hollick, chief executive of United News and Media, has been insisting that Mr Grabiner should honour his contract, as executive director of United in charge of newspapers, which runs out in January. The issue was due for the High Court next week. Instead, in return for the early release, the two sides have agreed to co-operate on digital terrestrial television.

Forminster shares rise

SHARES in Forminster, the Kookai retailing group and men's clothing manufacturing company, rose 18p to 136½p after the group reported a rise in pre-tax profits from £1.25 million to £4.24 million on sales up from £19.4 million to £33.6 million. Earnings per share rose from 4.48p to 10.19p, out of which total dividends rise from 1.92p to 3.37p after a 2.15p final. Sir Philip Carter, chairman, said: "We are now in a position to concentrate on our retail expansion."

Dennis out of Malaysia

DENNIS GROUP, the bus and fire engine maker, has withdrawn from its loss-making Malaysian joint venture. The operation was hit by the turmoil in the Far East currency markets. Costs of withdrawal, plus operating losses incurred, depressed profits by about £2 million. Pre-tax profits still grew 12 per cent to £19.5 million for the year to January 31. The final dividend is 6.7p (6.1p) making a total for the year of 9.75p, up 10 per cent. **Tempus, page 30**

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.64	2.47
Austria Sch	22.04	20.38
Belgium Fr	64.88	59.90
Canada $	2.508	2.320
Cyprus Cyp£	0.920	0.849
Denmark Kr	12.00	11.11
Finland Mkk	9.83	8.88
France Fr	10.49	9.71
Germany Dm	3.16	2.91
Greece Dr	545	508
Hong Kong $	13.72	12.92
Iceland	131	111
Ireland Pt	1.24	1.15
Israel Shk	6.60	5.95
Italy Lira	3133	2896
Japan Yen	231.06	213.55

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Malta	0.688	0.628
Netherlds Gld	3.558	3.283
New Zealand $	3.11	2.97
Norway Kr	13.04	12.10
Portugal Esc	318.97	296.94
S Africa Rd	9.11	8.15
Spain Pta	265.61	246.82
Sweden Kr	13.66	12.56
Switzerland Fr	2.63	2.41
Turkey Lira	415643	385785
USA $	1.770	1.627

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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BT hangs up on Mrs Beckett

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

First, the good news. The broadcasting laws are to be changed so that BT will be able to squirt entertainment down the telephone lines and provide real competition for the cable companies. Now the bad news. The chaps at BT have already decided that they are not interested in using their lines for proffering video on demand or other services which will soon be regarded as pretty humdrum, and thus be priced accordingly.

The BT knights, chairman Sir Iain Vallance and chief executive Sir Peter Bonfield, reason that there are better ways of making money via the telephone. The French method of selling football tickets has already demonstrated the potential for milking the punters who are prepared to clock up the units in a hopeless cause. More creatively, BT believes that added value, interactive services are where it can gain the edge over the cable operators. With the Internet now a fact of life, BT is spinning a web of lucrative ideas for capitalising on it. The rewards of being an Internet intermediary are mouth-watering. Yesterday the US company WorldCom boasted of first-quarter profits up from $13 million to $193 million, helped by an increase of 82 per cent in revenues from Internet traffic.

WorldCom, of course, is the company that outbid BT for MCI, thus not only saving the company from a potentially disastrous purchase but providing it with a hefty reward. Since that embarrassing debacle last year, the BT knights have been striving to rebuild credibility in their strategy. While their attitude towards the changes now heralded by the President of the Board of Trade may be a touch depressing for Mrs Beckett, it should give some comfort to shareholders. Whatever the Government's blueprint for providing competition, there is little point in BT obligingly going into a fist fight with the cable companies.

The cable operators have already invested £8 billion in digging up Britain's streets and their intention is to have taken the expenditure to £12 billion by 2001. That money should ensure that more than three-quarters of the country has access to cable communications and all that they can bring. Their digging has raced ahead of the legislators. But Mrs Beckett should not be too distressed. At least BT's nonchalant response to her move should quash any of those nasty suggestions that the company's offer to wire up the nation's schools to the Internet might have been linked to any quid pro quo on the entertainment front.

Could it be that, despite the way the BT proposal was heralded by Tony Blair, the company shows more commercial sense than generosity?

The Biotech *dilemma*

British Biotech had the potential, and the name, to be an industry leader, a national champion in an international marketplace. Sadly, it is fast taking on the appearance of corporate horror story instead a glorious tale of success.

The details are as complicated as the products that the company is working on but has yet to bring to market. The former head of clinical trials at British Biotech has serious concerns over the trials of two of the company's most important drugs and has voiced those concerns with his former bosses, some shareholders, the Food and Drug Administration in the US, the Securities and Exchange Commission and, probably, anyone else he thinks might listen.

In some quarters, Dr Andrew Millar is being characterised as someone overdosing on sour grapes. But the evidence is that he began to try to alert attention to his worries long before he was obviously being propelled towards the company door. Now that his concerns are filtering out into the marketplace, British Biotech directors will soon have to address them publicly.

Some shareholders already know considerably more than others. Perpetual and Mercury Asset Management, who together hold 20 per cent of the company, have voluntarily put themselves in the position of insiders in order to become privy to British Biotech's explanation. Whether they have been entirely comforted is not clear but, because they have chosen to receive information not available to all, they are now trapped as shareholders.

This does highlight a problem likely to affect more institutional investors as they move towards a pro-active attitude towards dealing with managements. Do they really want to know the worst if it might be truly horrible?

The Prudential has sought to cope with such difficulties by erecting a Chinese wall between the team that will aim to work with management in tricky situations and the investment managers. In an organisation of that scale, such a split may be workable. But smaller funds may find it very difficult to gather information and fail to act on it until the rest of the world knows too.

Minutes? Publish and be damned

The time has come for the Bank of England to rethink the delayed publication of the minutes of Monetary Policy Committee meetings. These are currently made available six weeks after the meeting in question — and two weeks after the following meeting.

The idea was to unveil the minutes so long after the event that the financial markets would have little reason to get excited and the work of the MPC could be conducted in relative calm. That idea was clearly based on a misunderstanding.

Speculation is the markets' raison d'etre and the current system gives them six whole weeks to make mischief. It should be noted that an ever more feverish atmosphere has been building, in spite of the fact that the members of the MPC have been extremely disciplined about loose talk before the minutes are published.

Whatever the source of this week's self-confident report in the *Financial Times* that Charles Goodhart had switched from hawk to dove, the discipline has broken down. The speculation will get much worse now that a crack has appeared.

The Bank must be thinking hard about how to get the City kids off its lawn and the easiest way of doing this is to publish the minutes as soon as they can be written and agreed. And why not? The best way to stop speculation is to give people the information that they crave.

Turning the tied

ROY BISHKO talks about Tie Rack as if he owned every share in the company, not less than 5 per cent. It has needed his nurturing to keep Tie Rack going when so many Eighties retail concepts failed, and his plans to deal with the current problems by revamping old shops rather than opening new ones are sound. All he needs now, he says, is a recession: Gucci and Dior ties will be forgotten and Tie Rack may then be not only a survivor, but fashionable.

Amvescap shares slump after veiled warning

By Richard Miles

MORE than £200 million was wiped off the market value of Amvescap, the fund manager, after it issued a cautious statement yesterday on the health of its core markets.

Shares in the company dropped by about 10 per cent at one stage, before recovering slightly to close down 35p at 695p, in spite of a strong set of first-quarter results, which saw pre-tax profits leap 91 per cent.

Charles Brady, executive chairman, said: "While the first quarter of 1998 has produced excellent financial results, we recognise that we operate in a cyclical business environment.

"It is important to avoid any risk of complacency and essential to be in a position to react quickly to a decline in markets. As such, we continue to monitor closely our expense levels and emphasise the need to increase the variable portion of our cost base."

Pre-tax profits for the quarter were £55.9 million, compared with £29.7 million last time. Revenues were £162 million, against £84.8 million.

However, the previous year's figures only include one month of contribution from AIM Management, the fund manager that merged with Invesco to form the Amvescap group.



Charles Brady, chairman, said it was important to avoid any risk of complacency

Over the three months to March 31, funds under management increased $16.1 billion (£10 billion) to $208.3 billion. Market appreciation accounted for $15.8 billion of this rise as stock markets boomed on both sides of the Atlantic.

Net new funds totalled $1.1 billion. US retail equity funds attracted $1.9 million, while Invesco Global took $1.1 billion. Some of these gains were offset by a $1.1 billion decline in institutional money market funds.

Although listed on both the London Stock Exchange and in New York, the company's operations are conducted mostly in dollars. As a result, the strength of sterling depressed its profits by £1 million.

Amvescap, which trades under the names of AIM Management and Invesco, said its $1.3 billion acquisition of GT Global was approved by 99 per cent of shareholders at the beginning of April.

The company said it also intends to issue $600 million of new medium-term debt to fund a portion of the purchase price for GT Global. The acquisition is expected to be completed by the end of May.

Tempus, page 30

Tie Rack forced to tighten its belt

By Sarah Cunningham
Retail Correspondent

TIE RACK, the tie and scarf retailer, has cut its dividend and is slowing its opening programme after a 42 per cent drop in annual pre-tax profits to £5.1 million (See Commentary, this page).

The company blamed the strength of sterling for about £2 million of the fall from £8.8 million. Asian economic problems have also had a drastic effect on takings at shops in the region, in tourist areas and at airports.

The final dividend has been almost halved from 2.75p to 1.4p, giving a full-year total of 2p (3.35p). Earnings per share for the year to February 1 were down from 10.73p to 6.21p.

Roy Bishko, chairman, said that very high costs of retail space in the UK mean the company will add far fewer stores to the chain this year. Last year it opened 35 new branches. "There is a boom going on," he said. "If one expands now it could turn out to be the wrong thing to do."

The company will instead concentrate on refurbishing existing stores and on advertising and promotions.

Alpha lifts estimate for cost of Orly withdrawal

By Fraser Nelson

ALPHA AIRPORTS, the in-flight meals group that is trying to sell its retail division, has warned the City that its retreat from France's Orly airport may cost £6.5 million — £2.5 million more than it estimated in February.

The company blamed airlines defecting to Charles de Gaulle for a sharp slowdown in business at its Orly kitchen.

Kevin Abbott, chief executive, said: "We are saying that this is the end of the provisions. There will be no more."

Mr Abbott also revealed the closure of one of its two Heathrow kitchens would cost £3.8 million, against a £4.5 million provision taken in February. He added that the company now expected that the cost savings from transferring business to its remaining Heathrow kitchen would amount to £3 million, against the £2.5 million it forecast earlier.



Abbott: no more provisions

Mr Abbott said that he expected a deal for the sale of its retail sites would be finalised within eight weeks. Analysts expect the disposal to raise about £50 million.

After the retail division has been sold, the company will generate two thirds of its business from catering and a third from ground services.

Underlying pre-tax profits advanced by an expected 13 per cent. to £28.7 million in the year to January 31 taking headline earnings to 11.6p (10.2p) per share. The dividend rose to 5.34p (5.25p) with a final 3.5p due on July 10.

The shares, which bottomed at 71p, slid 1p to 94½p yesterday.

Cobra reveals job losses

By Fraser Nelson

COBRA, the sports shoes and equipment chain that went into liquidation last week with debts of £8 million, has already shed 60 of its 440 staff in the hope of saving the remaining jobs.

Baker Tilly, Cobra's administrator, said it had attracted 20 potential buyers for the company's 54 stores, and hopes to complete a deal in "weeks rather than months".

Tracey Callaghan, joint administrator, said that the company was on the brink of recovery by rebranding all its stores as Frontier.

Cobra was founded in the late 1970s and was the first UK retailer to stock Reebok shoes when it was still a little known brand in the US. It was bought in 1992 by Mark Blackburn, who doubled its size through the acquisition of 31 Champion stores from the Burton Group the next year.

It has so far closed ten stores, but still has a concession in Harrods, and a presence in 24 Top Man outlets.

Its 17 Frontier shops were targeted at the hard-wearing outdoor market and gained notoriety when they put up signs warning that customers wearing shellsuits would be refused entry.

US duo do battle for Vero

VERO, the small electronics company based in the UK, was yesterday caught in a tug of war between two American technology giants (Matthew Barbour writes).

Initially the boards of Vero and Applied Power had agreed the terms of the £94.4 million cash bid. However, by late afternoon, Pentair declared that it was considering a higher offer for the British minnow.

Pentair and Applied Power, both of similar turnover and capitalisation, have expressed an interest in expanding their European markets.

Directors of Vero were set to share around £5 million if the Applied Power offer went through. The three-way takeover battle has broken out just weeks after Vero confirmed the strong pound had wiped £2 million from its 1997 pre-tax profits, the same year in which its shares fell to 79p from 195p.

Vero shares rose 33p to 152½p yesterday. Applied Power's cash offer values each Vero share at 157p, a premium of about 32 per cent over Wednesday's closing price of 119p.

L&G new business increases

Legal & General yesterday unveiled better than expected UK new business figures for the first quarter of 1998 that suggested last year's sales momentum is continuing.

L&G reported a 15.3 per cent increase in UK total new business to £96 million. Individual business rose 25 per cent to £77.7 million, while investment management business was up 8 per cent to £1.5 billion. Single premium individual life and pensions sales more than doubled to £223 million from £107 million in the first quarter of 1997.

Casual fit

Austin Reed, the clothing manufacturer and retailer, said that Country Casuals, the troubled business it bought earlier this year, has proved to be a smooth fit. The group delivered a 15.4 per cent jump in pre-tax profit for the year to January 31 to £7.8 million on turnover up 5.7 per cent at £82.6 million. Earnings per share were 17.1p (14.2p) while the final dividend of 5p gives a total of 7.5p (6.5p).

BAT moves

BAT Industries is to relocate its Hong Kong tobacco manufacturing plant to Malaysia. BAT, whose cigarette brands include 555 and Lucky Strike, said Hong Kong would remain the headquarters of its Asia Pacific North business and a key market for the firm.

Hughes boost

Shares in TJ Hughes rose 2½p to 163½p after the discount retailer raised pre-tax profits by 66 per cent to £3 million. Earnings also rose 66 per cent, to 10.17p and a second interim dividend of 2.4p will be paid, making a total of 3.37p for the year, up from 2.92p.

ALPHA
AIRPORTS GROUP PLC

Preliminary results for year ended 31 January 1998

- Growth in sales of 8%*
- Pre-tax profit up 13% to £28.7m**
- Sale process for ALPHA Retail underway
- Significant steps taken to reduce operating costs and introduce best practices across the Group
- Adjusted earnings per share up 14% to 11.60p
- Net debt falls to £71.3m

	1998	1997	% change
Profit on ordinary activities before tax**	28.7m	25.4m	+13%
Net debt	71.3m	78.1m	-8.7%
Adjusted earnings per share	11.60p	10.16p	+14%
Total dividend per share	5.34p	5.25p	+1.7%

* Based on 1996/97 sales excluding discontinued operations.

** Before exceptional provisions (1997/98), exceptional loss arising on sale of discontinued businesses and discontinued operations (1996/97).

"ALPHA intends to become a focused, growing airline services company. Whilst today we have islands of excellence in our networks, the biggest opportunity for our customers, our staff and our shareholders is to determine and implement best practice in every facet of our business."

Kevin Abbott Chief Executive

23 April 1998

% ROBECO GROUP

ROBECO N.V.

Robeco NV announce a cash dividend of Fls 3.60 per ordinary share of Fls 10 (Fls 0.360 per sub-share) for the financial year 1997

BEARER SHARE CERTIFICATES WITH COUPONS ATTACHED

Coupon No. 96 accompanied by the appropriate claim form should be presented to the Company's Paying Agents, National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, c/o NatWest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR on business days between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. Claims must be submitted by personal presentation. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

The dividend will be payable at Fls 3.60 per share, less tax as appropriate, as from 8 May 1998 against surrender of Coupon No. 96.

SUB-SHARE CERTIFICATES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK (NOMINEES) LIMITED

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should lodge the special claim form with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, c/o NatWest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR.

Payment of the dividend must be marked on the reverse side of the certificate in accordance with 'Marking Name' procedures.

Other claimants must also complete the special claim form and present this at the above address together with the relevant certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC.

All claims must be submitted by personal presentation. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

The Record Date is 23 April 1998.

Payment of Fls 0.360 per sub-share will be made by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited on or after 8 May 1998 and will be subject to Marking Name commission and tax, as appropriate.

SHARES HELD BY CF-DEPOSITARIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

In the case of shares of which the dividend sheets were at the close of business on 23 April 1998 in the custody of a United Kingdom Depositary admitted by the Centrum voor Fondsenadministratie B.V., Amsterdam, this dividend will be paid to such Depositary on 8 May 1998. Such payment will be made through National Westminster Bank PLC, after receipt by them of a duly completed CF Dividend Claim Form.

CONVERSION OF DUTCH CURRENCY

Payment, in respect of bearer share certificates and sub-share certificates, will be made in sterling at the buying rate of exchange current in London at 2.00 p.m. on 1 May 1998 (value 8 May 1998). CF-Shares will also be paid at this rate.

SHAREHOLDERS IN THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Approved Agents in the Republic of Ireland may present coupons to the Company's Paying Agents there, Allied Irish Banks PLC, Registrar's and New Issues Department, Bank Centre, PO Box 954, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

Claims on sub-share certificates registered in the name of The Munster and Leinster Bank Nominees Limited should be lodged with Allied Irish Banks PLC, Registrar's and New Issues Department, Bank Centre, PO Box 954, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

24 April 1998

ROLINCO N.V.

Rolinco NV announce a cash dividend of Fls 1.52 per ordinary share of Fls 10 (Fls 0.152 per sub-share) for the financial year 1997.

BEARER SHARE CERTIFICATES WITH COUPONS ATTACHED

Coupon No. 38 accompanied by the appropriate claim form should be presented to the Company's Paying Agents, National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, c/o NatWest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR on business days between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. Claims must be submitted by personal presentation. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

The dividend will be payable at Fls 1.52 per share, less tax as appropriate, as from 8 May 1998 against surrender of Coupon No. 38.

SUB-SHARE CERTIFICATES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK (NOMINEES) LIMITED

United Kingdom Banks and Members of the Stock Exchange should lodge the special claim form with the National Westminster Bank PLC, NatWest Investments Counter, c/o NatWest Markets, 1st Floor, 135 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3UR

Payment of the dividend must be marked on the reverse side of the certificate in accordance with 'Marking Name' procedures.

Other claimants must also complete the special claim form and present this at the above address together with the relevant certificate(s) for marking by the National Westminster Bank PLC.

All claims must be submitted by personal presentation. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

The Record Date is 23 April 1998.

Payment of Fls 0.152 per sub-share will be made by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited on or after 8 May 1998 and will be subject to Marking Name commission and tax, as appropriate.

SHARES HELD BY CF-DEPOSITARIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

In the case of shares of which the dividend sheets were at the close of business on 23 April 1998 in the custody of a United Kingdom Depositary admitted by the Centrum voor Fondsenadministratie B.V., Amsterdam, this dividend will be paid to such Depositary on 8 May 1998. Such payment will be made through National Westminster Bank PLC, after receipt by them of a duly completed CF Dividend Claim Form.

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24 April 1998

STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer of the Year

Smiths Industries leads engineering sector revival

BRITAIN'S manufacturers and exporters are back in vogue. Their shares were chased sharply higher as the pound continued to weaken against its main rivals.

Yesterday's subdued retail sales mean that the pressure for another rise in interest rates has eased, for the time being at least.

Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, was quick to jump on the bandwagon and began pushing the engineering sector to clients. **Smiths Industries** led the charge with a jump of 76½p at 886½p. **British Steel** also responded with a rise of 7½p at 159¾p with **Siebe** adding 71p at £14.30 and **LucasVarity** 3p to 264p.

But this long-awaited revival made little impact on the rest of the market which was dragged lower by further profit-taking and a dull performance by the banks and other financials. As a result, the FTSE 100 index saw an early 40-point lead wiped out and replaced by a fall of 80 points. It eventually closed 33.0 down at 5,898.1 as more than a billion shares changed hands.

By contrast, the FTSE 250 index, which includes most of the main manufacturers, rose 33.9 to 5,604.4.

The biggest losers among the banks included the **Woolwich**, 13p to 343½p, **Standard Chartered**, 32p to 915p, **Lloyds TSB**, 31½p to 969½p, and **Bank of Scotland**, 23p to 711p. **NatWest Bank** fell 26p to £11.65 after buying back 1.5 million of its shares at £11.70.

The insurance composites remained under a cloud with brokers becoming increasingly worried about the dent bad weather claims will make in profits. **Commercial Union** continued to lose ground, dropping 40p to £11.20, in the wake of a hefty profits downgrading on Wednesday by Credit Lyonnais, the broker. There were also setbacks for **General Accident**, 36p to £14.27, **Royal & SunAlliance**, 8½p to 717p, and **Guardian Royal Exchange**, 8p to 418p.

Stock shortages were behind the flurry of activity in **Racal Electronics** that saw the price harden 15½p to a high of 356p. There has been talk in recent months that Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman, will mark his retirement this year, by demerging the data communications side or agreeing to a full bid.

Pilkington rose 4½p to 128p — stretching the two-day lead to 10p — as Panmure Gordon became the latest broker to take a shine to shares of the glass manufacturer by recommending them as a "buy".

Pearson fell 30p to 946p after Panmure Gordon began urging clients to "sell". The media group, which publishes the *Financial Times*, has been a strong market of late after last year's pledge by Marjorie Scardino, chief executive, to *double the size* of the company during the next five years.

News of a profits upgrading lifted **Vodafone**, the mobile phone operator, 15½p to 625½p. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, has increased its profit forecast for the current year from £720 million to £860 million.

Energis, demerged last year from National Power, retreated 15½p to 683½p with NatWest Markets, the broker, becoming increasingly bearish about prospects. It has reduced its recommendation from "reduce" to "sell".

Austin Reed *rose 12p to 177p* after weighing in with full-year profits towards the top end of expectations. The company is positive about the future after the acquisition of Country Casuals.

Premier Oil added a further 2p to 41p as brokers took a look at the group's Myanmar operations in the Far East. **Cairn Energy** also rallied 18½p to 340p as brokers began to take the view that worries over licence delays in Bangladesh had been overdone.

The bid approach from Applied Power lifted **Vero Group** 33p to 152½p. The terms of 157p in cash are agreed and value Vero at £94.4 million.

Calluna firmed 1¾p to 21¼p after Colin Blackbourne of Shore Capital confirmed that he bought one million shares *in the company this week.*

Mr Blackbourne also has an interest in **Shield Diagnostics**, up 15p at 575p, on takeover speculation. Whispers currently circulating suggest Roche, the Swiss group, may pay 800p a share to acquire a near 30 per cent stake. Brokers say it would be cheaper for a company such as Roche to bid rather than negotiate licences with Shield.

Petra Diamonds touched 115p before rallying to finish 2p better at 137½p despite AC Energy pulling out of the proposed joint venture to explore and develop three diamond concessions in Angola.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The bond market continued to build upon suggestions that a further tightening of monetary policy can be avoided. The benign retail sales gave a lift to gilts that had already been buoyed by a report that one of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee "hawks" was now against another rise in rates.

In the futures pit, the June series of the Long Gilt closed all-square at £108 17/32, while among conventional issues Treasury 7 per cent 2007 was a tick easier at £110 5/32.

NEW YORK: Stocks were mostly lower at midday but the Dow Jones industrial average rose 19.43 points, to 9,196.15, on strength in a few blue chip stocks after their quarterly earnings.



Geoff Gibson, finance director, left, and Colin Evans, chairman of Austin Reed, 12p higher at 177p on results



IT MAY be too early to start celebrating, but there are signs of recovery for the spirits industry in both the US and Europe. That is the conclusion of the latest *survey from Merrill Lynch*, the broker.

The timing of the recovery in Europe and the US could not have come at a better time for the big producers who have seen the bottom drop out of their markets in the Far East. Price increases and mix improvements have already been implemented and the benefits of such action will continue to spill over into 1999. Merrill's favourite to take best advantage of the upturn is Diageo, ½p lighter at 689½p. Its position in the market-place is regarded as *almost unsurpassable*, regardless of any corporate moves the opposition may contemplate. The broker is less positive about the outlook for Allied Domecq, up 5p at 623p, but has still raised its forecast from "reduce" to "neutral". Merrill also reckons Highland Distilleries, down 2½p at 322½p, may contemplate a joint venture with the likes of Seagram.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	9196.15 (+19.43)
S&P Composite	1126.96 (-3.58)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	15761.69 (+0.15)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	10918.94 (-58.53)
Amsterdam:	
AEX Index	1171.55 (-15.06)
Sydney:	
AO	2877.8 (+21.0)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	5251.46 (-109.19)
Singapore:	
Straits	1495.86 (+20.34)
Brussels:	
General	18458.23 (-170.58)
Paris:	
CAC-40	3822.13 (-12.94)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1515.80 (-9.30)
London:	
FT 30	3781.4 (-3.4)
FTSE 100	5898.1 (-33.0)
FTSE 250	5604.4 (+33.9)
FTSE 350	2846.6 (+9.6)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2767.99 (+36.97)
FTSE All-Share	2777.09 (-8.49)
FTSE Non Financials	2761.23 (+6.57)
FTSE Fixed Interest	141.86 (+0.22)
FTSE Govt Secs	104.70 (Same)
Bargains	63152
SEAQ Volume	1082.1m
US$	1.6650 (-0.0100)
German Mark	2.9945 (-0.0068)
Exchange Index	105.9 (-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.5099
£:SDR	1.2400
RPI	160.8 Mar (3.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	158.9 Mar (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AB Airlines	93½	...
ARM Hldgs (575)	835	+ 2½
Aberdeen Cnvtble C	99½	...
Advent 2 VCT	102	...
Desire Petroleum	132½	+ 3½
Do 85% Cnv Ln 2005	111	+ ½
Do Zero Div Prf	103½	...
Eurotunnel 01/03 Wts	5	...
Express Dairies	161	- 1½
Guardian IT	451	- 1
Hartford Grp	2¼	- ¼
INVESCO Grd Opps	106½	...
LLP Group	333½	+ ½
Microcap Growth Tst	52½	...
Murray VCT 3 (100)	97½	...
Ottakar's	234½	+ ½
Oxford Glycoscncs	314½	+ 5½
Quester VCT 2	90	...
Safestore	70½	+ ½
Transport Dev B	34½	...
VI Group	47½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Guinness Pt n/p (20)	11½	...
Memory Crp n/p (20)	13	- ½
Mon Oil Gas n/p (55)	9½	+ 2½
Radstone Tch n/p (40)	14½	- 1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Vero	152½p (+33p)
Saatchi	164p (+13½p)
BPB	404p (+29p)
Austin Reed	177p (+12p)
SIG	211p (+13½p)
Eurotherm	344p (+20p)
Britt Allcroft	259½p (+15p)
Cairn Energy	340p (+18½p)
TI	579p (+29½p)
BBA	486p (+24p)
FALLS:	
Trust Motor Gp	184p (-12½p)
Powerscreen	180p (-12p)
AMVESCAP	695p (-35p)
Woolwich	343½p (-13p)
Prudential	812p (-30p)
Stand Chart	915p (-32p)
Reed Int	585p (-20p)
Bank Scotland	711p (-23p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

New ICI, new challenge

SIR Ronald Hampel summed up the question for ICI investors at the annual meeting yesterday. He proudly claimed that a new ICI had been created for the new century and pointed to the share price of £10.85 yesterday morning compared with £6.88 a year ago. So, is it all over?

A new ICI has justifiably been translated into a new share rating. At yesterday's level, the company is valued at more than 20 times earnings. That looks expensive compared with the rest of the specialty chemicals stocks but ICI gave some good reasons to justify its rating. The new businesses now account for more than half of trading profit and showed real growth: National Starch and Quest increased their profits by 10 per cent over the first quarter of last year.

When the remaining bulk chemical businesses are sold, ICI should become a less volatile business and less exposed to currency. The question is how fast it will grow. Paints are a low-growth, albeit highly profitable business and significant gains in that area depend on ICI raising market share. In fragrances and additives, markets are more dynamic with new products generating demand.

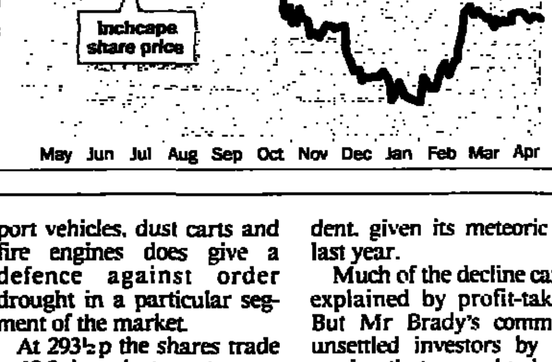
ICI loves to emphasise its conversion to a market-led approach to business and it is increasing its range of consumer businesses but being close to the consumer does not in itself command a better rating. Paint is as much a commodity as polyester — big volumes make the business worthwhile. Where ICI's transformation looks interesting is the potential to build businesses with real barriers to entry and high margins. More evidence of that is needed to keep the shares moving.

Inchcape

SIR COLIN MARSHALL has been around the City block often enough to know better than to sweet-talk investors when the outlook is actually not very good. So it was a surprise to hear the Inchcape chairman cast a more-than-favourable light on the City's reaction to the company's demerger plan. "It is clear, as can been seen from the reaction of the share price ... that there is substantial value to be released from this approach." Well, only up to a point. As our chart shows, Inchcape shares did initially *show signs of life. But normal* service was soon resumed, and the stock continues to *underperform the market.*

Inchcape is undergoing a transformation. But the demerger of businesses beyond the core motor retailing interests will not be completed until mid-1999 and it is far from clear what investor interest will be in activities as diverse as bottling plants in Latin America and marketing in Asia. The demerger process will certainly be complex.

The company continues to be afflicted by the strong pound and Asian woes. Earnings will also be adversely affected by the long-expected reduction in Inchcape's shareholding in Toyota (GB). Against this background, it is difficult to see what attractions Inchcape now holds for investors who have so far given it a wide berth. Investors who want to buy into the motor distribution sector will find better bargains elsewhere.



Dennis Group

DENNIS deserves another chance. It was caught out badly by its Malaysian adventure and the share price suffered accordingly. But errors of judgment about being in Malaysia in the first place were surely magnified unfairly by the dramatic swing in the value of Far East currencies late last year. And errors, perhaps, they are thanks only to the fact that our vision is blessed with the benefit of hindsight.

As an investment Dennis is not without risk. Its competitors, including Volvo and Mercedes, are dauntingly large. Dennis's exposure to currencies unnerves, and worries linger that the order book can be unpredictable.

Yet Dennis, a specialist, should be able to respond to customers in ways its larger rivals cannot. Also, if the next move for the pound is down — and who knows? — Dennis will be quids in. Its strategy to make buses, coaches, airport vehicles, dust carts and fire engines does give a defence against order drought in a particular segment of the market.

At 293½p the shares trade at 12.5 times last year's earnings. The stock market average is about 22 times, and even Dennis's more lowly rated engineering sector is on 18 times. The yield is above 4 per cent, compared with an average of half that. Buy.

Amvescap

IT WAS simply too good to last. Amvescap saw its stock double in price during 1997. Yesterday the stock took a bit of a blow after Charles Brady, executive chairman, was less than upbeat about prospects.

At one point the Amvescap stock registered in London fell by as much as 10 per cent, threatening to reduce the group's market value by £430 million. By the end of the day it had bounced back to settle down just 5 per cent. A small dent, given its meteoric rise last year.

Much of the decline can be explained by profit-taking. But Mr Brady's comments unsettled investors by suggesting that an end to booming stock markets is just around the corner.

Pivotal to Amvescap's fortunes will be its ability to attract income from sources other than the growth of its funds. Like most fund managers, the firm has trained its sights on the institutional pension fund market. Worryingly, gains in the retail funds during the quarter were offset by the loss of institutional mandates.

At the moment Amvescap is coasting on the back of buoyant stock markets. Any dramatic fall is likely to expose the group as a cluster of unintegrated businesses. Despite the name change, the firm essentially consists of Invesco and Aim. The acquisition of GT Global makes that three. Investors should be cautious.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	1072-1071	Jul	1179-1173
Jul	1095-1094	Sep	1195 SLR
Sep	1112-1110	Dec	unq
Dec	1130-1128		
Mar	1153-1150		
May	1164-1162	Volume: 9328	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	unq	Jan	unq
Jul	1780 BID	Mar	
Sep	1740-1735	May	
Nov	1700 BID	Volume: 7502	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	269.0-66.5
Spot: unq		May	274.0-70.5
Aug	252.0-51.6	Aug	278.0-72.8
Oct	257.5-57.0	Oct	284.0-77.8
Dec	262.0-61.6	Volume: 1160	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 22

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	66.66	103.12	86.36
(+/-)	-3.95	-8.09	-0.39
Eng/Wales:	66.66	107.47	84.99
(+/-)	-3.95	-7.42	-0.69
(%)	+5.0	+6.0	+12.0
Scotland:	unq	88.28	94.62
(+/-)		-14.00	+0.83
(%)		-25.0	+22.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.40	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Jun)	14.05	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Jul)	14.40	-0.35
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	15.35	-0.55
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	15.80	-0.50

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	161 (-1)	164 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	135 (-1)	137 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	81 (n/c)	83 (n/c)
Naphtha	126 (-1)	128 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	133.75-34.00	Aug	139.75-40.00
Jun	135.25-35.50	Sep	142.25-42.50
Jul	137.25-37.50	Vol: 15839	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	14.05-14.08	Sep	n/a
Jul	14.39 BID	Oct	n/a
Aug	14.66-14.70	Vol: 58829	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	76.50	May	74.50
Jul	78.50	Sep	73.00
Sep	76.00	Nov	75.00
Nov	78.00	Jan	77.00
Jan	80.00	Mar	79.00
Volume: 156		Volume: 15	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
May	90.0	95.1
Jun	unq	90.0
Nov	...	74.0
		Volume: 151

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

May 48.25-48.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 98	1010	1005	1005
May 98	995	985	990
Jun 98	unq	—	975
Jul 98	925	925	925
Vol: 74 lots		Open Interest: 1443	

Index 1006 +1

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1854.0-1854.5	1868.5-1869.0	Vol: 2241525
Lead ($/tonne)	569.00-569.50	578.50-579.00	187650
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1102.0-1102.5	1128.0-1128.5	594975
Tin ($/tonne)	5750.0-5755.0	5660.0-5665.0	24515
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1443.0-1444.0	1471.0-1471.5	1924125
Nickel ($/tonne)	5405.0-5410.0	5500.0-5510.0	97206

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Oct	Jan	Puts Jul	Oct	Jan
ASDA	180	22	27½	33½	5½	10½	11
(*193)	200	11	17½	23½	14½	20	20½
Abbey Nat	1150	88½	124½	158	68½	97	114
(*1151½)	1200	64½	100	133½	95	122½	139½
All&Leic	800	77½	101	119	33	49½	61
(*831)	850	51½	75	93½	57	73½	85
Alld Dom	600	47½	66½	73½	35½	37½	46
(*619)	650	26½	42	50½	55½	65	72½
BAA	600	42	58½	70½	26½	32½	39½
(*616½)	650	19½	34½	47	51½	59½	66
BAT Ind	550	52	69	84½	26½	43½	50½
(*563½)	600	29½	46	61½	53	70	77½
Barclays	1700	156	209	258½	68	112	135
(*1747)	1800	104	158½	211½	116½	160½	182½
Bass	1069	86	112	—	55	65	—
(*1091½)	1100	70	96	109	70	79½	93
Boots	900	63	88½	105	43½	55½	59
(*912)	950	40	66	80½	68½	80	84½
Br Airways	600	52	74½	83	29	41½	51
(*625)	650	29	51	65½	55½	68	77
BP	900	64	94	112½	41½	63	74
(*913)	950	41	72	88	66½	91	99½
Br Steel	140	23	25½	28	5½	7	10½
(*159)	160	10	14	18	15	16½	20
C&W	650	76½	95	116	21	35½	45½
(*697½)	700	48	70	92	42	57½	69½
CU	1100	85	120	141½	56½	85	95
(*1111)	1150	60½	95	116½	82½	107	120
GlaxoW	1500	166	213½	252½	65½	96½	112½
(*1581)	1600	113½	164½	203	100	145½	161
HSBC	1800	179	230	288½	102½	152	173½
(*1848½)	1900	130	190	240½	153	202	223½
Halifax	800	67½	90½	112	31½	48½	53½
(*827½)	850	42½	64½	86	56	68	77½
ICI	1050	89½	121	149	35½	60½	73½
(*1087½)	1100	63	95½	124	59½	84	97
Land Sec	1000	79½	112½	125½	37½	57	59½
(*1045)	1050	53	86½	99½	61½	81	82½
M&S	550	33	50	62½	28	36½	39½
(*558½)	600	15	31½	40½	58	63	68
Natl Pwr	550	47	64	76	37½	44½	53½
(*562)	600	25½	44	56	67	74½	83
Nat West	1100	110	144½	174	49½	81	92½
(*1148)	1150	84½	121	149	74	105½	116½
Reed Intl	550	59½	74½	89	18½	27	32½
(*585)	600	31½	48	63½	41	49	56
Reuters	645	57	75	—	35½	46	—
(*656)	703	31½	50½	—	69	78	
Rtl&Sun	700	58	80½	101	37	54	63
(*710)	750	36	55	77½	65	81	89
Safeway	330	31½	44½	51½	14	22	27
(*352½)	360	16½	30	37	29	37	42
Sainsbury	460	30	48	59½	22½	33½	38½
(*472)	500	14	30	41½	46	54	60½
Shell	420	38	52½	59½	12	20½	25
(*439½)	450	16	30½	37½	31½	40	44½
SmKl Bch	650	82	110	129½	32	47½	58½
(*690½)	700	57	86	106	55½	71	83½
Std Chtr	900	91	129½	161½	63	97	115½
(*908½)	950	67	106½	139	95½	123	141½
Thames W	950	60½	77	98	52	61	70
(*957½)	1000	39	59	77	82	90	98½
Vodafone	600	62	86	100½	32	44	52½
(*624)	650	39	61½	76	57	69½	77
Woolwich	324	28	39	—	14½	21½	—
(*335)	354	15	25	—	31	37	—
Zeneca	2400	211½	286	352½	86	143	168½
(*2483)	2500	159½	235	302	134	190½	215½
	Series	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
BTR	200	10	20½	26	8½	16	21
(*201)	230	3	12½	18	21½	28	32½
Blue Circ	330	24	41	50	8	21	27½
(*343)	360	10	26	35½	23½	36½	43
Br Aero	1900	103	189	246	37	89	122½
(*1962)	2000	49	138½	196	83½	138	172½
Br Telcm	650	23½	50	65½	19½	40½	51½
(*651)	700	7½	29	44½	52	69	80½
Cadbury	800	59	92½	110½	9½	29½	40½
(*845)	850	28½	64	84½	27	51	63½
Carlton Cms	420	43	58	69	2½	13½	19½
(*459)	460	15	36	47½	15½	30½	37
Energy Gp	850	18½	18½	19	3½	9½	11
(*864)	900	½	4	2½	36	41½	41
Gallaher	300	29	40	45½	4	12	20½
(*325)	330	9½	24	30	16½	25½	35
GEC	460	41	58	71½	5½	21½	28
(*495)	500	17½	36½	51½	21	40	47
	Series	**May**	—	—	**May**	—	—
Diageo	613	77½	—	—	2	—	—
(*686½)	671	32	—	—	15	—	—
	Series	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Diageo	671	35	67½	—	17	37	—
(*686½)	729	12	41	—	51	68½	—
Hanson	360	13½	27	36½	10½	20½	27
(*361)	390	3½	14	23	30½	38	44
Imp Tob	430	26½	36½	48	6	16	22
(*439½)	460	6½	18½	28½	26½	38	43
Kingfshr	1100	44½	86½	114½	30	54	68
(*1108½)	1150	22	62	89	57½	79	93
Lasmo	240	21½	34	41½	3	10½	12½
(*258)	260	8½	23½	31	10	17½	21
Ladbroke	330	22	38½	46½	8	18½	24½
(*343)	360	7½	24½	32½	24½	34½	40½
LucasVar	260	11½	24½	31½	9	18	21
(*264)	280	5	15½	22½	21	30	32
P&O	850	53½	84	96½	9½	27	39½
(*890)	900	23½	55½	69½	29½	48½	62
	Series	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**
Prudentl	800	42	84	105	28½	54	67½
(*807)	850	22½	61	81½	56	81½	94
Rio Tinto	850	40	81	106½	24	49	69
(*866)	900	17½	56½	82	52	74½	94
Redland	330	15½	16½	—	½	0½	—
(*345)	360	½	0½	—	15½	15½	—
R-Royce	260	18	30	33½	6½	14	21½
(*273½)	280	8	20½	29½	16½	23½	31½
Tesco	550	19	41	57	15	31	38
(*559)	600	4	21½	35½	50	60½	67
Utd Bisc	240	9	19½	23½	6	12½	17
(*241)	260	2½	11	15	19½	24½	28
	Series	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Dec**
BG	283	27	—	—	7½	—	—
(*304)	306	14½	—	—	16½	—	—
BSkyB	420	32½	48	63	16	30	37
(*431½)	460	15½	30½	44½	38	51½	58½
Br Bio	50	8½	13½	16½	8	9	11½
(*50½)	60	4½	10	13½	14	15	18
Centrica	100	10½	15	19	3½	5½	6
(*106½)	110	5	10	14½	8	10½	11
Dixons	550	49½	68	86½	15½	28½	32½
(*582½)	600	23	42½	62	37½	53	57
EMI	460	57½	70	82½	14	30	37½
(*498½)	500	35	50	63½	31	50	57½
Granada	1000	81½	114	139	21	41	50½
(*1045)	1050	53	87½	112	39	62½	73½
GUS	800	51	78½	93½	26½	42½	56½
(*815)	850	28½	53½	69½	54½	67½	82
Lloyds TSB	950	72	108½	139	46	72	91
(*967)	1000	48	84	115	72	97	116½
Lonrho	100	7½	11	—	4½	8	—
(*103)	110	3½	6½	—	10	13	—
Norwich	460	31½	48½	59½	21½	32½	39½
(*462½)	500	16	31	42	46	55½	62
Orange	390	43½	59	72	13½	23½	30½
(*415)	420	27	44½	58	26½	38	45½
Railtrck	950	86	114½	138	31	50	70½
(*997)	1000	58½	89½	113	53	74	94
Scot Pwr	550	34	53½	66½	31	41½	47½
(*556)	600	15	32	46	64	72½	77½
Tarmac	110	10½	15	17	3	5	7½
(*117)	120	5	10	12	7½	10	12½
Tomkins	330	28	36	43	7	15	18
(*349)	360	12	20½	28	20	29	33
Unilever	600	44½	64½	76	15½	26	33
(*622)	650	20	39½	50½	41	50½	57

April 23 Total: 30646 Calls: 16508 Puts: 14138

FTSE INDEX (*5863½)

Strike	Calls May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Dec	Puts May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Dec
5750	213	313½	374	430½	—	95	166½	200	216	—
5800	180½	283	344	402	606½	113½	187½	219½	239	347½
5850	151	254	313½	373½	—	134	208	229	262	—
5900	121½	224½	283½	344½	542	156½	227½	259	285½	386½
5950	98½	192½	253½	315½	-	183½	250	280½	310	—
6000	77	171	230	290	479½	210½	278½	308	339	429
6050	58	145½	208	268½	—	243½	307	336½	370	—

April 23 Total: 998 Calls: 627 Puts: 371 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 98	108-18	108-21	108-12	108-17	60714
Previous open interest 3	Sep 98				108.69	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 98	107.08	107.29	106.96	107.19	85778
Previous open interest 176181	Sep 98	106.80	106.99	106.80	106.92	157
Five Year Gilt	Jun 98	102.90	102.96	102.85	102.89	719
Previous open interest 9794	Sep 98				104.24	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 98	118.79	118.96	118.64	118.85	35146
Previous open interest 137867	Sep 98	119.32	119.32	119.24	119.32	301
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 98	130.78	130.90	130.75	130.78	1877
	Sep 98	130.77	130.77	130.77	130.73	100
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 98	92.54	92.57	92.54	92.57	25940
	Sep 98	92.68	92.72	92.67	92.72	37622
Previous open interest 894367	Dec 98	92.85	92.89	92.85	92.89	49585
Three Mth Euromark	Jun 98	96.290	96.305	96.275	96.295	57877
Previous open interest 2310954	Sep 98	96.140	96.170	96.130	96.155	68385
Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 98	95.39	95.40	95.35	95.36	35306
Previous open interest 987951	Sep 98	95.79	95.79	95.76	95.78	25427
Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 98	98.47	98.48	98.41	98.42	17285
Previous open interest 151508	Sep 98	98.27	98.28	98.21	98.23	9921
Three Mth ECU	Jun 98	95.79	95.79	95.77	95.79	573
Previous open interest 46978	Sep 98	95.79	95.80	95.78	95.80	247
FTSE 100	Jun 98	5986.0	6034.0	5894.0	5898.0	21802
Previous open interest 162757	Sep 98	6070.0	6070.0	5976.0	5974.0	1625

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7¼ Finance Hse 8

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 6½ Week fixed: 7¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7 ; 3 mth 7 . Sell: 2 mth 6⅞ ; 3 mth: 6⅞ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	7⅜-7¼	7⁵⁄₁₆-7¼	7¹¹⁄₃₂-7¼	7⅜-7¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	7¹⁹⁄₃₂-7¹⁵⁄₃₂	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7²⁹⁄₃₂-7²¹⁄₃₂
Interbank:	7¹⁹⁄₃₂-7¹⁵⁄₃₂	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7²⁹⁄₃₂-7²¹⁄₃₂

Overnight: open 6½, close 6½.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	7⅝	n/a	7½	7½	7¹¹⁄₃₂
Sterling CDs:	7¹⁹⁄₃₂-7¹⁵⁄₃₂	7¹⁹⁄₃₂-7¹⁵⁄₃₂	7¹⁹⁄₃₂-7¹⁵⁄₃₂	7¹⁹⁄₃₂-7¹⁵⁄₃₂	7²⁹⁄₃₂-7²¹⁄₃₂
Dollar CDs:	5.56	n/a	5.58	5.63	5.80
Building Society CDs:	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7½-7⅜	7⅞-7¾

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⁹⁄₁₆-5⁷⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⁹⁄₁₆	5¾-5⅝	5⁵⁄₈-4⅞
Deutschemark:	3⁹⁄₁₆-3⁷⁄₁₆	3⅝-3½	3¾-3⅝	3⅞-3¾	4-3
French Franc:	3½-3⅜	3⅝-3½	3¾-3⅝	3⅞-3¾	3½-2½
Swiss Franc:	1⅜-1¼	1⅜-1¼	1½-1⅜	1⅝-1½	1½-¼
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	⅝-½	⅝-½	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $313.10-313.50 Close: $312.70-313.20 High: $314.20-314.70 Low: $312.40-312.90 AM: $314.60 PM: $312.75

Krugerrand: $316.00-318.00 (£190.00-192.00)

Platinum: $421.00 (£253.40) Silver: $6.295 (£3.775) Palladium: $383.00 (£230.50)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for April 23	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.3575-3.3720	3.3691-3.3720	1½-1pr	3½-3½pr
Brussels	61.500-61.650	61.765-61.862	21-16pr	60-53pr
Copenhagen	11.374-11.424	11.416-11.424	½-¼pr	1-½pr
Dublin	1.1822-1.1896	1.1873-1.1896	13-6pr	44-34pr
Frankfurt	2.9831-2.9957	2.9931-2.9957	½-¼pr	2½-2½pr
Lisbon	305.59-307.06	306.56-307.06	½-¼pr	2½-2½pr
Madrid	253.40-254.44	254.25-254.44	65-54pr	200-181pr
Milan	2958.8-2962.7	2958.8-2962.7	57-41pr	184-161pr
Montreal	2.3770-2.3881	2.3846-2.3866	0.53-0.47pr	1.05-0.97pr
New York	1.6602-1.6690	1.6644-1.6652	0.25-0.23pr	0.73-0.70pr
Oslo	12.384-12.451	12.441-12.451	½-¼pr	1-½pr
Paris	10.000-10.047	10.040-10.047	½-¼pr	½-¼pr
Stockholm	12.766-12.856	12.840-12.856	½-¼pr	½-¼pr
Tokyo	215.69-217.77	216.323-216.592	1½-1½pr	3½-3½pr
Vienna	20.975-21.077	21.0578-21.077	½-¼pr	2-1½pr
Zurich	2.4689-2.4816	2.4788-2.4816	1½-1½pr	3½-3½pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5302-1.5313
Austria	12.62-12.63
Belgium (Com)	36.97-36.98
Canada	1.4325-1.4330
Denmark	6.8425-6.8445
France	6.0152-6.0162
Germany	1.7940-1.7945
Hong Kong	7.7492-7.7502
Ireland	1.4029-1.4049
Italy	1773.25-1774.25
Japan	129.81-129.84
Malaysia	3.7750-3.7850
Netherlands	2.0198-2.0208
Norway	7.4409-7.4459
Portugal	183.71-183.92
Singapore	1.5855-1.5875
Spain	152.40-152.45
Sweden	7.6819-7.6919
Switzerland	1.4841-1.4851

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6609-1.6636
Australia dollar	2.5417-2.5452
Bahrain dinar	0.6215-0.6355
Brazil real*	1.8947-1.8976
China yuan	13.665-13.974
Cyprus pound	0.8680-0.8880
Finland markka	9.0000-9.1490
Greece drachma	512.25-524.35
Hong Kong dollar	12.8714-12.8808
India rupee	65.47-66.97
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5020-0.5150
Malaysia ringgit	6.2703-6.2907
New Zealand dollar	2.9587-2.9642
Pakistan rupee	72.05 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.0025-6.1395
Singapore dollar	2.6378-2.6410
S Africa rand (com)	8.3420-8.5290
U A E dirham	6.0575-6.1955

*Barclays Treasury * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3I	2,704	LASMO	2,317
ASDA Gp	11,187	Legal & Gn	3,887
Abbey Ntl	2,307	Lloyds TSB	13,740
Allied Dom	3,722	LucasVarity	2,557
Allnce & Leic	2,365	Marks Spr	10,219
Amvescap	973	Nat Grid	2,300
AB Foods	1,880	Nat Power	5,521
Bk of Scot	8,489	NatWst Bk	6,412
BAA	3,518	Next	6,943
Barclays	4,142	Norwich Un	4,692
Bass	1,721	Nycomed Amr	298
BAT Inds	6,603	Orange	2,490
BG	7,750	P & O	2,057
Billiton	2,362	Pearson	1,649
Blue Circle	4,664	PowerGen	2,672
BOC	1,532	Prudential	6,605
Boots	2,106	Railtrack	1,687
BAe	1,483	Rank Group	3,729
BA	4,465	Reckitt Col	1,581
Brit Energy	4,669	Reed Intl	9,043
Br Land	1,754	Rentokil	6,802
BP	11,362	Reuters	7,132
Brit Steel	20,250	Rio Tinto	5,487
BSkyB	2,497	Rolls Royce	9,936
BT	9,993	Royal & Sun	5,104
BTR	11,680	Royal Bk Sct	2,356
Cable Wire	5,223	Safeway	5,504
Cadbury	3,224	Sainsbury	2,480
Carlton Cms	2,974	Schroders	223
Centrica	12,307	Scot & New	1,108
Cm Union	3,176	Scot Power	2,015
Compass Gp	687	Svrn Trent	810
Diageo	9,842	Shell Trans	19,584
EMI	3,433	Siebe	3,072
Energy Gp	1,321	Smiths Ind	2,916
Enterpr Oil	4,015	SmKl Bch	24,062
Gen Acc	1,096	Std Chand	2,596
Gen Elec	21,786	Sun Life	743
GKN	868	Tesco	4,985
Glaxo Well	6,003	Thames W	1,012
Granada	2,268	Tomkins	9,556
GUS	3,423	Unilever	9,798
GRE	3,113	Utd News	1,323
Hays	1,620	Utd Utilities	1,780
ICI	3,376	Vodafone	13,733
Kingfisher	2,538	Whitbread	1,509
HSBC	3,877	Williams	2,268
Halifax	4,255	Wolseley	1,596
Ladbroke	4,544	Woolwich	3,992
Land Secs	1,635	Zeneca	2,095

WALL STREET

	Apr 23 midday	Apr 22 close
AMP Inc	40⅞	40⅞
AMR Corp	155⅞	156⅞
AT & T	62⅝	63⅜
Abbott Labs	72⅝	72⅜
Advanced Micro	28⅜	28⅞
Aetna Life	82⅝	82⅝
Ahmanson (HF)	78⅝	78⅞
Air Prod & Chem	89⅜	87⅞
AirTouch Comm	57⅝	52⅜
Albertson's	49	49⅝
Alcan Aluminm	32⅞	32⅞
Allied Signal	45⅜	46
Alum Co of Am	78⅝	78⅜
Amerada Hess	58⅝	58⅝
AEP	47⅜	47⅝
Amer Express	103⅜	106
Amer Genl Corp	68⅜	68⅜
Amer Home Pr	93⅝	92⅜
Amer Intl	138	140⅝
Amer Stores	24⅞	24⅞
Amer Standard	47⅜	46⅞
Ameritech	44⅜	45⅜
Amgen	55⅞	57⅜
Amoco	87⅜	86⅜
Andrew Corp	23⅜	23⅞
Anheuser-Busch	47	47⅜
Apple Computer	27⅞	27⅜
Archer Daniels	21⅜	21⅝
Armco	6⅜	7⅝
Armstrng Wrld	87	88⅜
Asarco	26⅜	26⅝
Atl Richfield	77⅞	77⅝
Atmel Corp	19⅜	20
Auto Data Pro	67⅝	67⅞
Avery Dennison	54⅜	54
Avon Products	83⅜	82⅝
Baker Hughes	42⅜	43
Baltim Gas & El	31⅞	31⅝
Banc One	59⅝	60
BankAmerica	87⅝	87⅞
Bank of NY	61⅜	62⅝
Bankers Tr NY	132⅜	136⅜
Bausch & Lomb	51⅝	51⅜
Baxter Intl	53⅞	53⅜
Bectn Dicknsn	72⅜	72⅜
Bell Atlantic	95⅜	97⅜
BellSouth	65⅜	66⅜
Best Foods	115⅞	115⅜
Black & Decker	52	51⅜
Block (H&R)	47⅜	47⅜
Boeing	51⅜	53⅜
Boise Cascade	30⅜	30⅜
Boston Scien	70⅜	69⅜
Bristol Myrs Sq	105	106⅞
Browning Ferris	34⅝	34⅝
Brunswick	32⅝	32⅝
Burlington Nthn	102⅜	102⅜
CMS Energy Corp	44	44⅜
CSX	55	55⅜
CBS Corp	34⅜	34⅜
Campbell Soup	50⅞	51⅝
Carolina Pwr	41⅝	41⅞
Case Corp	63⅜	64⅜
Caterpillar	57⅜	57⅝
Central & SW	26⅜	26⅜
Champion Intl	55⅜	56⅜
Chase Manhat	139	140⅜
Chevron Corp	84⅝	84⅝
Chrysler	43⅜	42⅞
Chubb Corp	82⅞	82⅝
Cigna Corp	211⅞	212⅝
Citicorp	157⅜	159⅞
Clorox	84⅞	84⅞
Coastal Corp	69⅜	69⅜
Coca Cola	74⅜	75⅜
Coca Cola Ent	40⅜	40⅜
Colgate-Palm	90⅜	89⅜
Columbia Energy	81⅜	80⅝
ColumbiaHCA	33⅜	33⅜
Compaq Comp	29⅞	28⅝
Comp Ass Intl	59⅞	58⅞
Conagra	29⅜	29
Cons Edison	44⅞	45⅜
Cons Nat Gas	58⅝	59⅜
Cooper Inds	66⅜	67⅜
Corestates	102⅜	101⅜
Corning Inc	40	40
C'wide Credit	50⅜	51⅜
Crestar Finl	60⅜	61⅜
Crown Cork	53⅜	53⅜
Dana Corp	60⅜	61
Dayton Hudson	83⅞	83⅜
Deere	61⅜	62⅝
Delta Air Lines	120⅜	123
Deluxe Corp	33⅜	34⅜
Digital Equip	56⅞	55⅞
Dillard Dept St	37⅜	37⅜
Disney (Walt)	127⅜	116⅜
Dominion Res	39⅜	39⅞
Donelley (RR)	44⅜	45⅜
Dover Corp	39⅜	39⅞
Dow Chemical	99	98⅞
Dow Jones	51⅜	52⅜
Dresser	51⅜	51⅜
Duke Energy	57⅜	58⅝
Dun & Brdstreet	36⅜	35⅞
Du Pont	75⅞	75⅞
Eastman Chem	71⅝	71⅞
Eastman Kodak	72⅜	73⅜
Eaton Corp	90⅜	89⅜

	Apr 23 midday	Apr 22 close
Edison Intl	29	29⅜
Elect Data Sys	42⅜	42⅜
Emerson Elec	64⅜	64⅞
Engelhard Corp	19⅜	18⅞
Enron Corp	49⅜	49⅞
Entergy	27⅝	27⅜
Ethyl Corp	8	8⅜
Exxon	73⅞	72⅞
FDX Holding	72⅝	72⅜
FMC Corp	77⅜	78⅞
FPL Group	60⅝	60⅝
Fifth Third Banc	56	57⅜
Fleet Finl Grp	88⅜	89⅞
Fluor Corp	45⅜	45⅜
Ford Motor	46⅜	47⅝
Fort James	49⅝	49⅜
Fortune Brands	37⅞	38⅜
Franklin Res	53⅜	55⅝
GTE Corp	59⅞	60⅝
Gannett	71⅝	71⅞
Gap Inc Del	46⅜	46⅜
Gateway 2000	54⅜	55⅝
Gen Dynamics	42⅜	43⅞
Gen Electric	85⅝	85⅝
Gen Mills	69⅞	70⅜
Gen Motors	69⅞	69⅜
Gen Reinsurance	227⅜	225⅜
Gen Signal	44⅜	44⅝
Genuine Parts	35⅝	36⅜
Georgia Pac	75	74⅞
Gillette	117⅝	117⅞
Glaxo Wellc ADR	52⅞	52⅜
Goodrich (BF)	54⅝	54⅝
Goodyear Tire	71⅜	70⅜
Great Lakes	51⅝	51⅝
Halliburton	53⅝	53⅝
Harcourt General	53⅝	54
Heinz (HJ)	55⅜	56⅞
Hercules	48⅜	48⅝
Hershey Foods	70⅜	71⅞
Hewlett Packard	67⅜	66⅞
Hilton Hotels	32⅝	31⅞
Home Depot	70⅝	70⅝
Homestake Mng	12⅜	12⅜
Honeywell	95⅜	92⅜
Household Intl	133⅜	132⅜
Houston Inds	28⅜	28⅝
Humana	27⅜	27⅞
Ikon Office	24⅞	25⅝
Illinois Tool	68⅜	68⅝
Illinova	28⅜	29⅜
INCO	18⅝	19⅝
Ingersoll Rand	49⅞	50⅜
Inland Steel	29⅝	29⅝
Intel Corp	83⅞	84⅞
IBM	110⅞	114⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	48⅜	48⅜
Intl Paper	54⅜	54⅝
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	71⅜	71⅜
Kellogg	40⅜	40⅜
Kerr-McGee	67⅜	68
Kimberly-Clark	51⅞	50⅝
Kmart	18⅝	17⅞
Knight-Ridder	57	57⅞
Lilly (Eli)	70⅝	71⅜
Limited Inc	31⅝	31⅜
Lincoln Nat	91⅜	92⅞
Litton	62⅞	62⅝
Liz Claiborne	48⅜	47⅞
Lockheed Martin	116⅜	115
Louisiana Pac	22⅜	22⅜
MCI Comm	51⅜	51⅜
Manpower Inc	40⅝	41
Marriott Int	33⅜	33⅝
Marsh & McLnn	92⅞	93⅜
Masco Corp	58⅜	59⅜
May Dept St	65⅝	65⅝
Maytag Corp	52⅜	53
McDonalds	59⅜	60⅞
McGraw Hill	77⅜	78⅝
Mead Corp	35⅜	36
Meditrust Corp	30⅝	30⅝
Medtronic	52	52⅜
Mellon Bk	77⅜	77⅞
Merck Inc	119⅞	119⅜
Mercury Fin	0⅜	0⅜
Merrill Lynch	91⅜	92⅜
Microsoft	96⅜	98⅜
Minnesota Mine	94⅝	95⅜
Mirage Resorts	23⅜	23⅞
Mobil Corp	79⅝	78⅞
Monsanto	55⅞	54⅜
Morgan (JP)	139⅜	142⅜
Motorola Inc	57⅜	58⅝
Mylan Labs	26⅝	26⅜
Natl Semi	23	23
Natl Service Ind	53⅞	54⅜
Navistar Int	30⅝	30⅝
NY Times A	73⅜	73⅜
Newmont Mng	33⅜	34⅜
Nike B	48⅜	47⅜
NL Industries	19⅝	19⅜
Nordstrom	64⅞	64⅞
Norfolk Sthrn	35⅝	36⅝
Nthn State Pwr	55⅞	56⅝
Norwest Corp	40⅜	41⅜
Occidental Pet	28⅜	28⅞
Office Depot	33⅜	34⅜
Oracle	27⅝	27⅜
Oryx Energy Co	25	25

	Apr 23 midday	Apr 22 close
Owens Corning	41⅜	41⅞
PPG Industries	72⅜	73⅝
PMI Group	79	79⅝
PNC Bank	62⅝	62⅜
PP&L Res	22⅝	22⅞
Paccar Inc	54⅝	55⅜
Pacificorp	22⅜	22⅜
Pac Enterprises	39⅜	39⅝
PaineWebber	46⅜	47⅝
Pall Corp	19⅜	20⅝
Parker Hannifin	45⅜	46⅜
Peco Energy	22⅜	22⅝
Penney (JC)	71⅜	72⅝
Pennzoil	64⅞	65⅝
Pepsico	43⅜	44
Pfizer	114⅝	114⅜
Pharm & Upjhn	39⅜	40⅜
Phelps Dodge	69⅜	70⅜
Philip Morris	38⅞	38⅞
Phillips Pet	49⅜	49⅜
Pitney Bowes	49⅝	49⅞
Polaroid	44⅜	45⅝
Procter & Gmbl	87⅝	84
Providian	65⅝	66⅜
Pub Serv E & G	33⅜	34⅜
Quaker Oats	53⅜	53⅜
Ralston Purina	107⅝	106⅜
Raychem Corp	39⅜	40⅝
Raytheon B	56⅞	57⅝
Reebok Intl	29⅜	31⅝
Reliastar Fin	48⅜	48⅜
Reynolds Metals	67⅜	67
Rockwell Intl	56⅜	55⅜
Rohm & Haas	109⅜	111
Royal Dutch	56⅜	56⅞
Rubbermaid	29⅜	28⅜
SBC Comms	41⅜	42⅝
Safeco Corp	52⅜	52⅝
St Paul's Cos	86⅝	86⅜
Sara Lee Corp	61⅜	60⅜
Schering Plough	81⅜	92
Schlumberger	79⅜	79⅜
Seagram	39⅜	38⅝
Sears Roebuck	59⅝	58⅜
Shell Trans	43⅞	44⅝
Sherwin Wllms	34⅝	35
Silicon Graphics	13⅜	13⅞
Snap-On-Tools	45	45⅝
Southern Co	26⅜	26⅜
Southtrust	43⅜	42⅝
Sprint Corp	70⅜	70⅝
Stanley Works	50⅜	53⅜
Starwood H & R	49⅜	49⅞
Sun Company	42⅝	41⅜
Sun Microsys	40⅝	39⅝
Suntrust	81⅜	82⅝
Supervalu	45⅜	45⅜
Synovus Fin	36⅜	36⅜
Sysco Corp	23⅝	23⅞
TRW Inc	51⅜	52⅝
TIG Hldgs	26⅜	26⅝
Tandy Corp	51⅞	53⅜
Temple Inland	64⅜	64⅜
Tenet Healthcare	38⅜	39
Tenneco	46⅞	47⅝
Texaco	62⅜	62
Texas Inst	62⅝	64
Texas Utilities	40⅜	40⅞
Textron	79⅜	80⅝
Thermo Elect	40⅝	40⅝
Time Warner	77⅜	77⅜
Times-Mirror A	60⅝	60⅝
Timken	35⅜	36⅝
Torchmark	48⅝	48⅜
Toys R Us	28⅞	28⅜
Transamerica	115⅜	116⅝
Travelers	64⅜	65⅜
Tribune	67⅜	67⅜
UST Inc	30⅜	30
US Bancorp	127⅜	129⅜
UAL	90⅜	90⅜
Unicom	68⅜	69⅞
US Inds	28⅜	28⅝
US West Comm	53⅝	52⅝
US West Media	37⅜	37⅞
USAirways Group	76⅝	78⅜
USX Marathon	36⅞	37⅜
Unicom	33⅝	34⅜
Unilever NV	73⅜	73⅞
Union Camp	61⅜	61⅜
Union Carbide	49⅞	50⅜
Union Pacific	56⅜	56⅝
Unisys Corp	22⅝	22⅜
USF&G Corp	24⅝	24⅜
United Tech	97⅝	97⅜
Unocal Corp	41⅜	41⅝
VF Corp	49⅞	50⅝
Wal-Mart Stores	51⅞	52⅜
Warner-Lambert	187⅝	187⅞
Waste Mngmt	33⅜	33⅝
Wells Fargo	378⅜	369⅜
Weyerhaeuser	59⅜	60⅝
Whirlpool	71⅞	71⅜
Whitman	20⅞	21⅝
Winn Dixie	40	40⅞
Witco Corp	40⅝	40⅜
Woolworth	24⅝	24⅞
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	82⅜	81⅝
Xerox	108⅜	109⅜
Xilinx Inc	43⅜	44⅞

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

allenge

ould become a less volatile
exposed to currency. The
ist it will grow. Paints are a
t highly profitable business
ains in that area depend on
et share. In fragrances and
ts are more dynamic with
nerating demand.
nphasise its conversion to a
ach to business and it is
ge of consumer businesses but
e consumer does not in itself
er rating. Paint is as much a
lvester — big volumes make the
hile. Where ICI's transforma-
sting is the potential to build
real barriers to entry and high
evidence of that is needed to
moving.

versely affected by the long-expected reduction in Inchcape's shareholding in Toyota (GB). Against this background, it is difficult to see what attractions Inchcape now holds for investors who have so far given it a wide berth. Investors who want to buy into the motor distribution sector will find better bargains elsewhere.

TS BOTTLE

FTSE all-share index

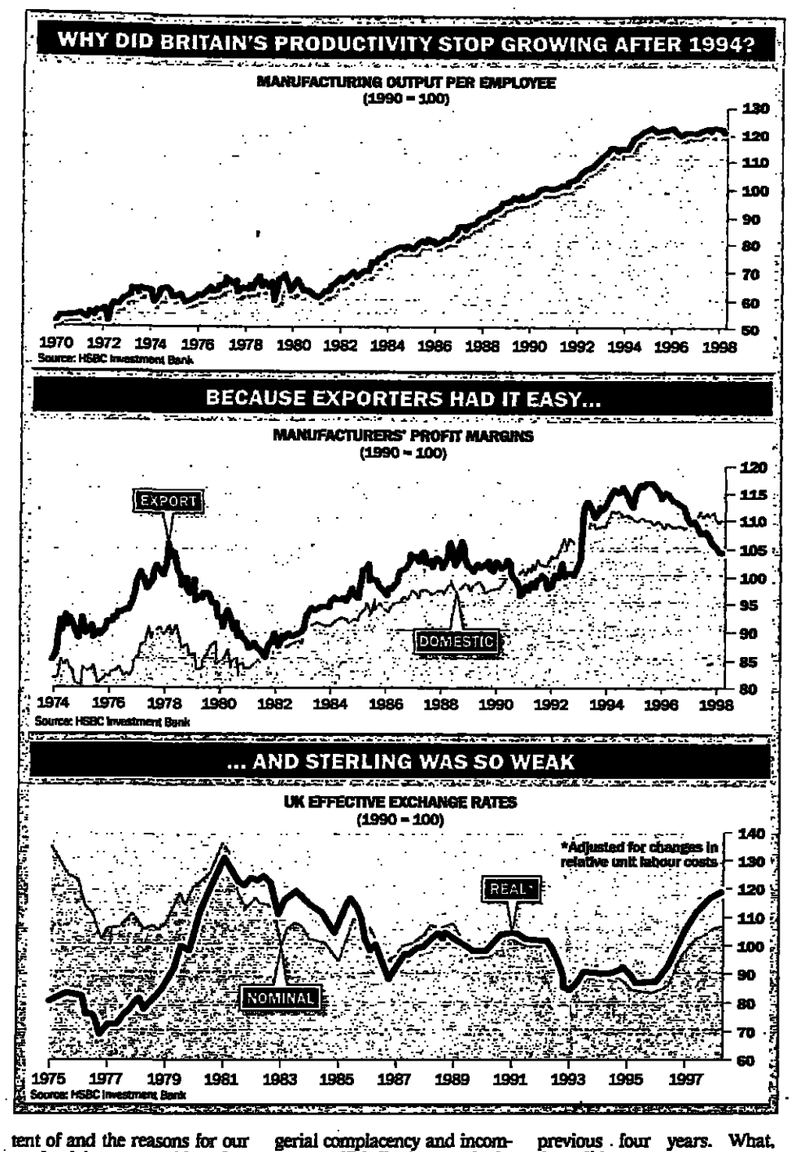
WALL STREET

ECONOMIC VIEW ANATOLE KALETSKY



The managers who took power must take the heat

Bosses have grabbed the cash but now need to take responsibility



Gordon Brown called on Wednesday night for a great national debate on Britain's greatest and most enduring economic problem — a problem far more important than monetary instability, currency fluctuations, boom-bust cycles, inflation or even unemployment. This problem is British industry's abysmal record of ineffieicny and low productivity growth — a record of almost miraculous underperformance stretching back to the start of this century unmatched by any other country in the world, wth the possible exception of a few African and Communist dictatorships.

The reason why productivity is ultimately more important than any other economic issue is quite simple: a nation's total wealth and living standard depends ultimately on how much it can produce and sell. If British businesses are incapable of generating an ever expanding stream of marketable goods and services, which grows rapidly year after year, then Britain will remain a relatively poor nation, regardless of how it handles unemployment, inflation or any other other essential distributional issues which preoccupy politicians and economic commentators. Successful demand management, directed towards full employment, is a necessary condition for national prosperity, but it is not sufficient. Full employment with low productivity growth is no better — indeed it is arguably worse — than the German achievement of high unemployment and high productivity growth.

Mr Brown may strut around the world bragging about Britain's flexible markets and trying to foist his shiny new formula for an independent central bank on the rest of Europe. But boasting about the miraculous economic "third way" invented by new Labour will only expose the Chancellor to ridicule as long as Britain continues its shuffle towards the poorhouse of Europe, with output per capita falling ever further behind Germany, France, Italy and even the Republic of Ireland — and this in a period when Britain has supposedly been booming while the Continent is in a slump.

It is understandable, therefore, that Mr Brown should now have decided to put productivity at the centre of the Government's economic policies and its relations with business. As he explained on Wednesday to the Confederation of British Industries: "Since I arrived at the Treasury I have been seeking to understand the extent of and the reasons for our productivity gap with other major economies. The latest figures show a productivity gap of around 20 to 30 per cent with France and Germany and a gap of 40 per cent with the US. These disappointing figures can no longer be ignored. Today, I want to set down a challenge to ourselves in Government, to you the country's business leaders and to every shareholder, every employee, every citizen of this country. The challenge is to bridge the productivity gap." All very admirable. But where should the Treasury and the nation begin the quest for the holy grail? One place to start is the response to the Chancellor's speech. Apart from *The Times*, not a single newspaper yesterday morning even deigned to report the central thrust of Mr Brown's big speech.

The absence of interest in Mr Brown's productivity crusade is instructive for three reasons. First it shows that very few people — in the media, in politics or in academia — are aware of just how badly Britain's businessmen have performed. Secondly it suggests that the main cause of Britain's industrial failure has not been macroeconomic instability, but managerial complacency and incompetence. Thirdly, it casts doubt on the present fashionable anxiety about British manufacturing: if British manufacturers and exporters are today losing sales and profits, then perhaps they should blame their own strategic mistakes, not the strength of sterling or the tightness of monetary policy.

These are provocative statements, but they seem amply justified by the sudden divergence between British and international productivity growth discussed in this column on March 20. The story is told even more clearly by the three charts above, drawn from an admirable study just published by Adam Cole, of HSBC Investment Bank. The top line shows that manufacturing productivity, which had grown steadily since the first Thatcher recession, came to a complete standstill after 1994. This productivity collapse was not caused by weak markets, a squeeze on profits or the "hoarding" of surplus labour during a temporary slowdown (the excuses currently used by British managers). In fact demand grew much more rapidly after 1994 than in the previous four years. What, then, did go wrong?

The most persuasive explanation is offered by the second chart. Profit margins soared after the White Wednesday devaluation. As a result, companies that previously struggled to survive by constantly raising productivity and cutting costs suddenly found themselves effortlessly minting profits. So high were margins in the post-ERM period that, even today, after sterling's jump to DM3, British exports are on average more profitable than at any time in the previous two decades.

There was nothing wrong with using the devaluation to boost profit margins. The trouble lay in the way that British managers reacted to this unprecedented bonanza. Instead of using the profits generated by the temporarily undervalued exchange rate to finance investment in efficiency improvements, the average British manager simply relaxed. Not only did he decide to spend more time on the golf course. He made his life even easier by handing out large pay increases, unrelated to any efficiency improvements, to employees. The result is illustrated in the bottom chart. The real costs of doing business in Britain (shown by the bold line) are now almost as high as they were in the oil boom of the early 1980s. Yet the actual level of sterling against other currencies (the faint line) is no higher than it was during most of the 1980s. This is because one third of the real increase in Britain's relative costs since 1995 has been due to pay increases unmatched by productivity growth. Obviously it would be nice for British industrialists if the other two thirds of their loss of competitiveness could be effortlessly reversed by pushing the pound down. But even if such a devaluation could be arranged (which it almost certainly can't) what would stop British managers frittering away the benefits as they did after 1992?

Rather than answering this rhetorical question, let me, finally, explain a small but important semantic point. Why are all these accusations so personalised? Why do I keep referring to "managers" and "businessmen", instead of the usual impersonal abstractions such as the "manufacturing sector" or "the country as a whole". The reason is that managers make and implement all the key decisions that determine a company's efficiency and its rate of productivity growth. The days are long gone when British companies could blame their low porductivity on recalcitrant trade unions and restrictive labour practices.

Today the fashion is to claim that inadequate training and poor basic education account for the 30 per cent gap between British and German productivity mentioned by Mr Brown. Another excuse is that the short-termism of stock market capitalism has made it impossible for British companies to invest. But what, then, is the explanation of the even higher productivity in America, where school education is no better than in Britain, where the State does even less to train the workforce and where stock market capitalism has become a religion?

As US unemployment has all but vanished, many American companies have been taking workers from ghetto gangs, prisons and drug rehabilitation programmes, retraining them where necessary, and achieving average productivity levels that make their German, French and Japanese competitors green with envy. In saying this, I am not suggesting that education, skills and investment are unimportant: I am merely arguing that the skills already available in the British workforce (which, after all, is quite good enough for Toyota and Honda) and the financing already available from UK financial markets should, with the proper management, be quite sufficient to achieve internationally respectable results.

The "the right to manage" that was won so painfully for British businessmen by Margaret Thatcher imposed a duty to achieve results. Or let me put it another way. Since the 1980s, British managers have taken the power and the money. They should now take the responsibility — and the heat.

Ready for business when firms show signs of faltering

Jason Nissé meets a man so charming you might thank him for sacking you

Few receivers become television celebrities, but Murdoch McKillop has enjoyed his 15 minutes of fame. The new president of the Society of Practitioners in Insolvency (SPI) was the star of a BBC2 series about what happens when the plug is pulled on a company. His appearance on the small screen came after he was called from Arthur Andersen's Glasgow office to join the team, led by John Talbot, that took control of the private interests of Robert Maxwell's business empire soon after the death of the publisher in late 1991.

McKillop was seen struggling to save British International Helicopters, an oil rig service business, which was one of 200 companies that Andersen ended up running. His smooth Scottish tones and calm demeanour created an oasis of reason amid the mess left behind by Maxwell. McKillop, though, would prefer to be remembered for his work saving Leyland DAF — the truck maker that few believed could survive the collapse of its Dutch parent.

After the TV series was aired one rival said of McKillop: "He came across as being so charming that you would want to thank him for sacking you."

McKillop, 50, will need all his charm to save the insolvency profession from being hit by a barrage of regulation from the Department of Trade and Industry. Taking over from the genial Brendan Gilfoyle — a small practitioner from Leeds whose year as SPI president was seen by many as a welcome respite from the procession of corporate suits from the big accountancy and legal firms — his year in office will be dominated by two issues: compulsory regulation and fees.

In its first year in office Labour may have tempered some of the sideswipes it made at the insolvency profession while it was in opposition, but few doubt that Nigel Griffiths, the Minister for Competition and Consumer Affairs, is considering taking regulation of the profession under his aegis.

Currently there is no central regulator — insolvency experts gain their licence from their own professional body, the Law Society for lawyers, for example, or one of the two institutes for chartered accountants. This system has been seen as breaking down, notably when one of the profession's leading figures — Michael Jordan of Coopers & Lybrand — was fined just £1,000 for taking on the lucrative Polly Peck International insolvency despite an apparent conflict of interest.

McKillop recognises that there have been problems with regulation but argues that the system should stay the same. The SPI, he says, does not want to be a regulator as this would add an extra layer of bureaucracy, and he believes that statutory regulation would "build a costly edifice that is unwieldy". He said: "I think the profession can evolve to deal with the public interest concerns. I know there is the danger of chaps regulating chaps. But you have to have people who understand the technical problems."


McKillop: saved truck group

While the DTI may not be entirely convinced by this argument, McKillop may have more joy in his battle to stop a statutory regime being applied to the level of fees that can be charged by receivers, administrators and liquidators. Howls of outrage about the costs of big insolvencies, such as BCCI, British & Commonwealth and Polly Peck, led the DTI to set up a commission under the chairmanship of Mr Justice Ferris, the High Court judge, to look at how fees are charged.

The Ferris team — which includes McKillop — would have reported their conclusions by now had it not been for the rather important distraction of a landmark legal case concerning the level of fees charged by Buchler Phillips and Nabarro Nathanson, liquidator of Robert Maxwell's estate, which was presided over by Ferris.

In a judgment that many insolvency practitioners can recite by heart, Ferris decribed the liquidators' fees, which ate up nearly all the money in the estate, as "shameful", adding that "remuneration should be fixed as to reward value not to cover costs" and that charging by the hour should be dispensed with as "time spent represents a measure not of the value of the service rendered but of the cost of rendering it".

McKillop resists any attempt to gloat about the Ferris ruling — even though Buchler Phillips was largely formed by accountants who broke away from Andersen's insolvency side — and hints heavily that the commission's recommendations will mirror the judge's ruling.

He is also confident that once there is a clear explanation of how fees should be charged and, as Ferris is sure to recommend, more comprehensive statements detailing what the insolvency practitioners have done to justify their fees, the profession will avoid the DTI imposing a statutory regime.

"I don't believe the profession has got anything to fear from what may or may not come out of the Ferris working party," he said. "It will ensure that the process is more open, more transparent."

The reform will be timely. McKillop reckons that, after a quiet period for insolvency practitioners, there could well be an increase in businesses running into trouble over the next few years or so. He sees a number of factors behind this, notably the high pound and the flood of venture capital-backed buyouts in the past few years, many of which McKillop reckons were done at high prices and would not be able to resist a sudden reversal in fortunes. He also predicts that computer problems caused by the millennium bug will also force quite a few companies into receivership.

At the moment many of cream of British insolvency practitioners are in South-East Asia, trying to save local companies hit by the region's economic woes. If McKillop is right, most of them will be back in the UK soon, taking control of a company near you. Gordon Brown, you have been warned.

Bio degraded

CHRIS EVANS, the Welsh biotech wizard, has won the SCI Centenary medal, a science prize. He used the opportunity of the awards ceremony to rubbish, comprehensively and with scabrous wit, Keith McCullagh, chief executive of embattled British Biotech. Among the repeatable bits, McCullagh was visiting American analysts last week when the engines on the aircraft died, Evans joked. There was only one parachute on board. McCullagh seized it. "I'm going to get help," he said, leaping out.

Boom, boom. Evans did not even stop his attack in the bar after the event. He saw McCullagh the previous day, he claimed. "I asked him what pillow he was using. If he manages to sleep at night, anyone can." All amusing enough. Except that some of the assembled science nerds, who seemed to have encountered McCullagh before, were almost helpless with laughter.



"They've been driven but are they forever smitten?"

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

☐ *AN UNLOOKED-FOR burst of candour from Roy Bishko, of Tie Rack, after the downturn in the company's fortunes. The company has always insisted that its headquarters are in desirable Chiswick, West London. Yesterday Bishko admitted that they were actually in rather less salubrious Brentford.*

Bowing out

TO THE Berkeley Hotel for the retirement bash of Brian O'Rorke, who steps down next month as executive director of the Management Consultancies Association. Picture in your mind the man you would expect to be running such a trade body, and you would probably come up with some bright-eyed youngster — average age in the profession is about 35 — in a striped shirt clutching a clipboard. It took lateral thinking, therefore, for them to plump 12 years ago for a retired Colonel of the Irish Hussars.

He was in fine form at the Berkeley even if the joke about the Queen, Robert Mugabe and the horse predates the state of Zimbabwe by many decades, I fear, Brian. It seems he first applied for the post on a part-time basis because of his other business interests, in particular in Aircall, the maker of those useful electronic alarms carried by the old and infirm. Alas, the job just grew and grew.

Sole survivors

WHEELER'S of St James's, the over-rated fish restaurants that are the last known refuge in the civilised world of the Sole Waleska, is to undergo a change of image. Granada, unwilling owner of the business since 1996, is spending £150,000 on a much-needed revamp of six of the eight restaurants. The bad news is that the two in the City, in Fenchurch Street and Great Tower Street, are unaffected. As a child, it was my treat to be driven down to Brighton by my mother, whose birthday it is today, by coincidence, for lunch at Wheeler's there. Like much else, the chain has not improved in the years since my childhood.

The upgraded branches are to be renamed Phish, to avoid confusion with the various Cafés Fish and other piscine chains now proliferating, presumably. But it appears that the name Phish is already taken, by a successfully retrograde American rock group, a clash that has been missed by the Wheeler's people. Still, terribly modish.

More flak

ROGER PARRY, outspoken chief executive of the outdoor advertiser More Group, continues to talk himself out of a job if Decaux of France wins the two-way bid for his company. He has just been warned by the French to stop what they see as a personal campaign against them. But Parry was unrepentant yesterday. Would there be any tension if Decaux won? "Well if the press coverage is anything to go by the relationship might be a tad strained." So would he resign automatically? "It would be ill-advised of me to comment, but clearly there would be some huge cultural differences."

The truth is that Parry for some reason loathes Decaux and all that the company stands for and would never work for them anyway. Their offer is worth more than the rival US bid, so he says he doesn't care who wins. You have to warm to him. One normally associates such doomed and quixotic gestures of defiance with the French.

MARTIN WALLER


Roger Parry looks to be heading for French leave

ARGOS plc

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds:				
Uk Safeguard	142.05	151.37	- 0.19	
Do NAV to Mar 20	140.18	140.18		
UK Equity Safeguard	112.66	120.48†	- 0.06	2.02
Do NAV to Mar 20	110.61	110.61		
US Eq Safeguard	97.38	103.26		
Cash	959.12	962.92		5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	421.50	448.40	- 1.50	1.43
UK Small Cos	95.71	102.35	- 0.51	0.50
FTSE 250 Index	114.58	122.53	+ 0.68	1.89
Geared UK Index	2764.21	2918.13†	- 13.00	5.75
Income Funds				
Corp Bd	85.10	88.10	- 0.25	6.32
Monthly Inc	45.81	48.96†	+ 0.06	7.96
International Funds				
American Gen	334.90	355.10	+ 3.10	
American Sml	256.97	274.83	+ 1.67	
JG US Index	2670.40	2813.63		4.00
European Gen	413.50	437.40	- 7.60	0.08
European Smd	177.33	189.65	- 3.27	
Japan Gen	101.30	107.40	+ 0.70	
Asia Pacific	65.89	70.36	+ 0.42	1.09
Pacific Smd	101.69	108.75	+ 0.27	
Greater China	194.52	208.03	- 1.81	
Latin America	107.44	114.77	- 1.13	
Int Growth	186.35	199.29	- 0.57	0.11
Balanced Exempt	182.40	189.70		2.14
Global Strategy	51.72	55.31	- 0.47	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	975.30	1036.00	- 1.00	2.20
General Inc	791.00	840.50	- 1.20	2.20
Uk Growth Acc	668.10	710.70	- 2.00	2.20
Uk Growth Inc	419.20	445.90	- 1.30	2.20
Higher Inc Acc #	1265.00	1345.00	- 4.00	4.13
Higher Inc Inc #	637.60	678.50	- 2.40	4.13
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	240.50	253.90	- 0.20	5.56
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	97.71	103.20		5.56
Nth America	482.50	513.20	+ 3.40	
Europe	584.40	621.70	- 2.10	0.45
Brit Excel?	132.60	141.00	- 0.70	2.05
Brit Frndmtls Acc	168.00	178.70	- 0.50	3.95
Brit Frndmtls Inc	106.40	113.10	- 0.30	3.95
Global Opps	136.30	145.00	+ 0.10	0.21
Balanced Acc	82.36	87.61	- 0.11	2.12
Balanced Inc	74.67	79.43	- 0.10	2.12
Japan Acc	32.78	34.87	- 0.38	
Pac Basin Acc	287.20	305.50	- 1.50	2.19
AXA SUN LIFE FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0117 989 9000				
Discretionary	70.35	74.85	- 0.46	
Uk Income Inc	88.22	93.83	- 0.18	2.16
Extra Inc Inc #	41.56	44.31	- 0.14	6.08
High Yld Inc	128.60	136.80	- 0.32	3.03
Inc & Gth Inc	120.30	127.70	- 0.14	2.31
Uk Smaller Cos	49.95	53.14	- 0.16	1.71
Pacific Grth Port	35.04	37.28	- 0.14	0.84
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	147.50	156.90†	0.70	5.71
High Inc Equity	249.40	265.70†	0.50	3.93
Worldwide Bond	271.70	288.40†	- 0.60	3.65
American Growth	592.20	632.40†	- 4.50	0.22
Asian Pacific	224.50	240.10	- 0.90	0.52
Assets & Earnings	399.30	427.10	- 0.40	2.39
Euro Capital Acc	302.60	323.60	- 3.20	0.24
Extra Inc	43.97	46.78†	- 0.14	8.94
General	361.10	384.10†	- 0.70	2.51
Global Opps	86.38	91.89	- 0.26	0.35
Japan	75.77	81.04	- 1.08	
Managed Inc	56.48	60.09†	- 0.08	4.24
Mastertrust	267.50	321.90	+ 0.20	1.08
US Emerging Cos	247.30	264.50	- 1.00	
Ethical	105.30	112.00	- 0.10	1.63
International	160.30	170.50	- 0.30	0.58
Dividend & Growth	92.63	98.54†	- 0.06	3.56
Global Grth & Sec	80.49	85.86	- 0.06	2.05
Latin America	80.39	85.52	- 0.39	0.78
Capital Reserve	156.50	156.60	- 0.10	4.46
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
N&P Uk Growth	131.70	140.10	- 0.10	1.40
Equity Income #	181.20	192.70	- 0.70	3.26
Extra Income #	334.70	356.20	- 0.70	4.29
Smaller Cos	112.10	119.20†	- 0.40	1.76
International	149.00	158.50†	- 0.30	0.78
ABERDEEN PROLIFIC UT MGRS LTD				
Enq: 0345 686 666 Dlg: 0800 833 580				
Amer Opp Acc	422.26	444.51	+ 1.96	
Emg Mkts Inc	63.31	66.99	- 0.27	
Ethical Inc	97.44	103.10	+ 0.27	0.61
Euro Grwth Acc	145.86	153.12	- 0.42	
Euro Spec Opps Acc	154.69	163.60	+ 0.17	
Extra Inc Inc	251.97	265.92†	- 0.98	3.62
Extra Inc Acc	348.71	365.91	- 1.35	3.62
FE Emg Econ	80.30	84.97	- 0.94	0.69
Fixed Int Inc #	30.58	32.09	- 0.03	7.45
Frontier Mkt Inc	83.86	88.74	+ 0.43	
Fund Of Inv Inc #	224.90	237.97†	- 0.57	8.35
Fund Of Inv Acc	486.85	515.17	- 1.24	8.35
Gilt Inc Inc #	51.20	53.37†	- 0.01	6.45
Global Bond Inc #	41.73	43.03	+ 0.19	4.82
Global Inc Inc	34.38	36.17	+ 0.02	3.36
Global Inc Acc	52.83	55.59	+ 0.04	3.36
High Inc Inc	188.47	199.43†	+ 0.99	3.47
High Inc Acc	254.15	268.93	+ 1.33	3.47
Japan Inc	143.82	152.18	+ 1.21	
Latin Amer Inc	69.58	73.62	- 0.76	
Master Inc Inc	69.33	73.35†	+ 0.24	2.35
Master Grth Inc	64.69	68.44†	- 0.32	0.34
North Amer Inc	293.61	308.94	+ 2.29	
North Amer Acc	293.96	309.31	+ 2.29	
Pacific Inc	56.85	60.15†	+ 0.36	0.19
Prop Share Inc	103.96	110.00	+ 0.26	0.90
Recovery Inc	118.85	125.76	+ 0.13	1.31
Recovery Acc	135.11	142.96	- 0.14	1.31
Special Sit Inc	191.89	203.05	- 0.80	0.86
Special Sit Acc	217.34	229.98	+ 0.91	0.86
Tech Inc	903.95	951.40	+ 0.56	
Tech Acc	903.95	951.40	- 0.56	
Uk Blue Chip Inc	130.12	136.80	- 0.09	2.21
UK Blue Chip Acc	156.64	164.44	- 0.11	2.21
UK Emg Co Inc	87.30	94.37		0.66
Uk Grwth Inc	78.25	82.351	- 0.28	0.88
World Port Inc #	101.40	107.29	- 0.16	1.78
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
Uk Small Cos	2759.00	2867.00	- 8.00	
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5868				
Rezidl Property #	109.10	116.00		5.50
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	117.04	124.18†	+ 0.18	1.72
Income Builder Inc	108.88	115.83	- 0.20	2.81
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cnsrctd Dut Pens	158.40	164.50		
Foundtn Persl Pens	92.22	95.81		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
American Sm Cos	511.80	543.51	+ 2.60	
Bond	123.40	129.70†	- 0.60	6.30
Brit Smlr Cos	122.60	130.40	+ 0.80	1.80
Europe	442.10	469.10	- 4.30	
Euro Smlr Cos	149.60	159.40	- 0.90	0.20
High Income #	77.52	82.47	+ 0.02	4.87
Income	477.20	507.70†	- 0.70	3.39
Japan	272.80	289.40	+ 4.70	
Latin American	111.00	118.10	- 0.78	
Pacific	77.97	82.52	- 0.04	1.19
Uk Smlr Cos	72.67	77.31	+ 0.15	0.90
Japanese Sm Cos	465.40	479.80	- 5.10	
Mngd Fd	268.60	285.20†	- 0.30	2.10
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Ovrs	468.60	496.60	- 1.80	0.70
Capital Grth	185.90	196.60	+ 0.20	2.14
Wwide Opps	260.50	275.50	- 0.50	0.79
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0161 522 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.40	100.40†		6.75
Cash Acc	133.80	133.80	- 0.10	6.75
Income #	810.00	864.00	- 1.70	3.42
Income Builder #	92.10	98.09	- 0.07	4.01
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	123.80	131.70†	- 0.50	1.04
500	600.00	645.10	- 2.00	1.45
General	471.80	504.10†	- 2.00	1.75
Property	273.60	293.60†		5.58
Trustee	328.00	350.70	- 0.30	1.12
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	211.50	226.20	- 0.60	1.17
FTSE 100	152.90	162.30	- 0.60	1.35
Growth Acc	661.20	703.40	- 4.10	1.06
Smaller Cos	69.36	73.98	+ 0.15	1.63
Smaller Cos Acc	83.53	89.10	+ 0.18	1.63
Growth Funds - Overseas				
America	271.20	286.30	+ 1.90	
American Growth	185.70	196.50	- 1.00	
Japan	91.79	96.90†	- 0.89	
Japan Acc	92.84	98.02	- 0.91	
Japan Spec Sits	42.32	44.78	- 0.37	
Worldwide	244.90	259.80	- 1.00	0.45
Barclays Investment Portfolios				
Managed Income	50.36	52.08	- 0.13	6.46
Mgd Cash & Inc #	50.66	53.62	- 0.13	5
Managed Growth	53.36	56.80	- 0.13	0.60
Barclays Global Investors Funds				
Brokerline 0800 731 2343				
Income Funds				
Distribution #	142.60	143.30†	- 0.20	4.53
Equity Income #	195.30	208.30†	- 0.50	3.50
Gilt & Fx Int	64.90	67.17	- 0.26	6.70
Inc Fxd Int	100.50	103.80	- 0.20	4.60
Inl Fxd Int Acc	130.20	134.60	- 0.30	4.60
Growth Funds - Uk				
Uk Growth	606.10	644.80	- 2.00	1.11
Uk Growth Acc	606.10	644.80	- 2.00	1.11
Growth & Inc	616.90	656.30†	- 1.60	1.13
Growth & Inc Acc	1342	1428	- 3.00	1.13
Growth Funds - Overseas				
Euro Growth	300.90	319.00	- 3.90	0.22
Euro Growth Acc	329.60	349.30	- 4.30	0.22
Far Eastern Grwth	111.00	118.10	- 0.20	0.69
Far Eqn Gth Acc	188.50	200.50	- 0.30	0.69
BARING FUND MANGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	213.40	225.30	+ 0.90	
Amer Smlr Cos	187.00	198.20		
Eastern	161.90	173.30	- 0.30	0.30
Equity Income #	139.40	148.40†	- 0.30	4.00
European Growth	648.10	688.70	- 2.90	0.80
Europe	540.60	578.20	- 6.60	0.50
German Growth	166.30	176.20	- 0.40	0.50
Global Bond	75.19	79.08		5.10
Japan Growth	219.80	233.20	- 0.50	0.10
Japan Growth	112.60	119.30	- 0.20	
Japan Source	81.11	85.98	- 0.64	
Korea Trust	28.56	31.02	- 0.46	
Portfolio	203.40	216.40	+ 0.10	1.80
-do- Accum	394.90	420.40	- 0.40	1.80
Uk Growth	159.50	170.00		1.60
Uk Smaller Cos	151.10	163.90†	- 0.20	1.00
Select Managers	107.40	114.60	- 0.10	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Grwth Port Inc	113.50	120.70		
Special Oppor Inc	64.86	69.00		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	209.82	218.56†	- 0.42	0.72
-do- Accum	248.95	259.32	- 0.49	0.72
Smaller Cos	217.71	226.79	- 0.84	0.15
-do- Accum	246.91	257.20	- 0.95	0.15
Higher Yield #	80.22	83.56†	- 0.10	3.21
-do- Accum #	133.04	139.58	- 0.16	3.21
American Gth Inc	153.82	160.23	- 0.77	
European Growth	251.26	261.73	- 3.10	
-do- Accum	256.64	267.33	- 3.16	
Mngd Ptflo Inc	67.22	70.03†	- 0.12	1.18
-do- Accum	70.78	73.73	- 0.13	1.18
Int Spec Opps	231.99	241.65	- 1.46	
Pacific Growth	110.42	115.02	- 2.17	0.91
UK General #	140.99	146.86	- 0.17	2.36
-do- Accum #	157.23	163.78	- 0.19	2.36
Japan	38.16	39.75	- 0.41	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	112.48	116.56†	- 0.56	7.26
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.84	65.67†	- 0.02	6.37
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	251.30	267.80	- 0.70	1.22
UK Growth	312.30	327.90	- 0.80	1.19
UK Income	212.10	222.70†	- 0.70	3.10

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dct	314.00	332.80	- 0.80	1.02
-do- Income Dct	177.50	188.10†	- 0.50	2.69
-do- Accum	605.20	641.50†	- 1.60	2.69
Gilt & Fxd Int	44.62	46.88	- 0.09	4.64
Growth Units	377.60	403.00	- 0.80	1.44
Bond	193.00	203.00	- 0.70	5.70
Intl Growth	263.60	280.48†	- 0.30	0.26
North American	380.20	403.20	- 2.80	
Far East	192.40	205.80	+ 0.10	1.02
Uk Smaller Cos	313.60	335.40	- 1.30	0.86
European	141.90	151.00	- 1.00	0.42
Japanese Growth	28.35	30.04†	+ 0.26	
High Income	313.30	334.40†	- 1.00	2.56
Eurogrowth Plus	243.07	258.59	- 1.58	0.09
Portfolio	107.67	114.54	- 0.16	1.05
Uk Income Inc	132.92	141.40†	+ 0.31	3.34
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	341.00	360.60†	+ 4.00	
European Inc	158.40	168.20	- 0.50	0.10
Smaller Cos (4-1)	126.70	134.80†	+ 0.30	1.53
Growth	801.70	852.90	- 0.50	1.53
Income & Growth #	665.30	707.80	- 1.20	3.79
-do- Accum #	1059.30	1127.00	- 1.90	3.79
Japan & Gen	47.79	50.60†	+ 0.37	
Hallmark Grth	1670.00	1740.00†	- 1.00	1.31
-do- Accum	2111.00	2199.00	- 2.00	1.31
Special Sits	184.80	196.60		1.50
High Yield	2173.00	2241.00	- 3.00	3.24
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	126.11	134.07	- 0.11	2.17
American Portfolio	185.22	196.74	- 0.07	0.41
European Portfolio	218.80	230.37†	- 2.20	0.28
High Income	57.01	59.97	- 0.02	6.22
Japanese Portfolio	46.14	48.83†	- 0.48	
Pacific Portfolio	116.12	124.85	- 0.53	1.16
Uk Equity	129.41	137.98†	- 0.33	2.61
Uk Equity & Bd	74.71	79.17	- 0.01	4.80
Uk Smlr Cos	62.16	66.49	+ 0.40	1.75
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	1069.65	1086.01		3.20
Inv Fd Acc	1111.65	1128.45		
Fxd Int Sec Inc	169.72	170.40		7.51
Fxd Int Sec Acc	184.96	185.70		
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	1048.66	1064.50		3.27
Investment Acc	5132.32	5209.88		
Fixed Int Inc	137.00	137.54		7.56
Fixed Int Acc	283.40	284.54		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Beckman Intl	102.09	107.33		5.76
Beck Bio-Tech	41.07	44.33	- 0.67	
Acorn Ethical Tst	229.18	243.81		0.58
City Fin Assets	100.31	105.33†		2.68
City Fin Inco	95.54	101.64†		
Fiars Hse Cap	435.37	463.16		2.04
Beckley Wrld Grth	139.74	148.12		
Utilities Fd	92.79	94.74	+ 0.02	3.17
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	51.27	54.40	+ 0.16	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	114.72	122.04	+ 0.77	...
Dragon Growth	45.20	48.34	+ 0.29	1.27
Equity High Inc #	133.60	141.37	- 0.77	3.83
-do- Accum #	202.64	214.43	- 1.17	3.83
Extra Income Inc	29.37	30.92†	- 0.12	5.67
Extra Income Acc	34.99	36.84	- 0.14	5.67
European Gwth	106.41	112.60	- 0.19	
Evergreen	41.39	44.28	- 0.07	
General Equity	154.47	163.03	- 0.58	1.76
Japan Growth	31.41	33.41	- 0.34	
Pedigree Gwth	98.33	104.05	+ 0.20	1.18
Ped Sm Cos Inc	49.14	52.00	+ 0.05	1.05
-do- Accum	52.91	55.99	+ 0.06	1.05
Retirement Inc #	38.47	40.93	- 0.13	4.39
Special Sits	65.12	70.02	+ 0.14	2.06
UK & Overseas	77.75	82.38	- 0.03	0.23
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	92.31	96.15	+ 0.21	2.90
Capital	116.87	121.73	+ 0.09	1.59
High Income	56.30	60.62	- 0.12	6.27
Top 50	86.59	90.19	- 0.41	1.57
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	266.53	276.62†	+ 0.26	3.66
Long Gilt	52.95	55.12†	- 0.23	4.70
Monthly Inc Plus	62.73	65.35†	- 0.20	6.86
-do- Accum	77.35	80.58	- 0.24	6.86
Preference Share	59.87	62.37†	- 0.16	6.25
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	182.58	190.21†	- 0.43	5.07
Managed Fund	94.22	98.16†	- 0.02	2.16
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	57.53	59.93†	+ 0.12	1.42
-do- Accum	69.33	72.23†	+ 0.15	1.42
UK & General	140.17	146.03†	- 0.39	1.86
-do- Accum	188.93	196.82†	- 0.54	1.86
UK Growth	278.78	290.43†	- 0.65	1.35
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	350.17	364.80†	- 1.33	0.37
Far Eastern Gth	93.47	97.37†	+ 0.61	0.29
Global Bond	71.21	74.18†	+ 0.27	5.17
Japan Growth	82.60	86.05†	+ 1.02	..
North Amer Grth	358.57	373.55†	+ 3.78	
Oriental Growth	57.03	59.41†	+ 0.13	0.82
Worldwide Growth	94.37	98.31†	+ 0.11	0.26
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.76	91.76†	- 0.01	6.81
Homemaker Fund	114.99	122.34	- 0.10	1.88
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Consistent UT	48.69	51.93	- 0.15	2.48
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	227.00	241.30†	+ 0.40	1.45
Income	98.06	104.32	- 0.31	3.27
European Growth	116.20	123.40	- 0.70	
Recovery	247.60	263.40†	+ 0.60	1.68
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1428.90	1448.20	..	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	105.30	111.60	- 0.60	0.26
Fellowship Tst	139.20	148.00†	- 0.20	0.90
Income #	386.80	411.40†	- 0.80	3.38
-do- Accum #	1084.00	1153.00	- 2.00	3.38
Smaller Cos	271.00	288.20	+ 0.30	0.84
-do- Accum	339.80	361.40	+ 0.40	0.64
Gilt Portfolio	137.70	146.40	- 0.10	1.04
Mnthy Inc Port #	115.30	122.50	- 0.20	3.16
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	2030.40	2060.20	+ 35.10	0.45
Uk Small Cos	2520.60	2529.80	+ 9.60	3.36
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	298.30	307.50		2.22
DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD				
Dealers:0171 956 7354 Client Helpline:0800 317573				
Formerly KBUT				
Amer Smlr Cos	238.00	253.10	- 0.60	
Asian Growth	181.40	192.90	+ 2.10	0.30
Bond Income	151.50	156.60†	- 0.40	6.40
European	307.80	327.40	- 0.80	0.49
European Priv	159.00	169.10	- 0.60	0.70
European Special	226.70	241.10	+ 1.60	
Gilt Yield	132.30	139.50†	- 0.30	6.10
Global Eqty Inc	155.60	165.10	+ 0.10	1.40
High Yield #	226.80	241.20†	- 0.70	3.90
Japan	275.70	292.90	+ 1.90	
Japanese Special	128.60	138.80	+ 0.30	
Global Eqty Inc	104.44	104.44†	+ 0.02	6.39
North American	169.80	180.50	+ 2.00	
Smaller Cos	187.20	199.10		0.80
Smlr Cos Div	78.10	83.08		4.20
Tomorrows Co Ex	1378.00	1399.00	+ 1.00	0.10
UK Equity Growth	69.60	74.04	- 0.21	0.60
UK Index Inc	486.10	488.50	- 0.90	2.40
Bircham Tst	131.00	140.80†		1.30
Global Income	274.50	292.00	+ 0.80	2.80
Formerly Thornton				
European	526.64	551.45†	- 1.29	0.30
Europe Bd	38.89	40.43	+ 0.11	7.20
Exempt	968.45	1007.98†	- 2.41	1.80
Global Em Mkts	79.50	83.24†	+ 0.31	0.30
Japan Tst	59.04	61.81†	+ 0.42	
Little Dragons	71.58	74.95†	- 0.33	
Nth Amer Grwth	459.53	480.70	- 2.73	0.50
Oriental Income #	36.92	38.65†	+ 0.45	3.40
Preference	155.56	162.88†	- 0.32	7.80
Tiger	184.75	193.45†	+ 0.15	
UK Blue Chip	121.54	127.26	- 1.07	1.10
UK Growth	936.84	980.14	- 2.73	1.30
UK High Yield #	164.00	171.72†	- 0.36	3.90
UK Mid-Cap	476.95	499.42†	+ 3.02	1.20
UK Smlr Cos Div #	98.00	102.61	+ 0.13	5.50
Uk Smllr Cos	160.12	167.66	- 0.07	
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
Convertibles #	27.79	29.53†	+ 0.10	4.74
Enterprise	133.70	141.70	+ 0.50	1.76
Equity Income #	200.30	212.80†	- 0.10	3.01
European	95.89	101.50	- 0.30	
Financial	89.73	95.34	- 0.33	1.05
Uk Growth #	412.50	438.30	- 0.40	2.00
High Dist #	252.10	267.60	- 1.00	3.18
International	499.60	530.70	- 1.70	
Int Cap Inc	134.30	143.40†	- 0.20	1.88
Latin American	37.09	39.41	- 0.29	
Mgd Grth Port	112.60	117.70		0.59
Pacific	67.80	72.04	- 0.54	
Prof High Inc	27.75	29.48†	- 0.08	6.11
Tokyo	139.60	147.60	+ 1.70	
UK Smaller Cos	326.20	346.60	- 1.50	1.01
Japan Sm Cos	228.30	241.60†	- 1.80	
Nth Amer	629.60	665.40	+ 5.00	
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Growth Acc	359.70	378.60		0.17
Income	724.90	783.10	- 4.20	4.07
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	277.40	295.10†	- 3.30	0.98
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	143.32	150.87	- 1.54	1.32
Ethical Tst	64.29	67.87	+ 0.46	0.80
Far Eastern	223.24	234.99	+ 2.40	1.76
High Income	201.38	211.98	- 1.31	3.34
Uk Index Trdng	75.75	79.74	- 0.86	2.08
Intl Growth	149.58	157.45†	- 0.25	1.24
North American	217.56	229.01	+ 0.41	1.31
Pelican	203.30	214.00†	- 1.69	2.21
Smaller Cos	85.79	90.31	- 0.25	1.75
Special Sits	105.75	111.32	- 0.08	2.52
Tst of Inv Tsts	270.16	284.38	- 0.08	1.48
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	194.81	206.69†	+ 0.53	..
Fd of Inv Tsts	70.08	74.36	- 0.21	0.11
High Income #	51.51	54.62†	+ 0.13	9.15
Mar & Gl Opps	68.52	73.31†	- 0.30	
Zero Preference	51.67	54.82	+ 0.25	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Asset Tst	142.10	151.10†	+ 0.100	1.79
Charities Eth	397.60	422.90†	+ 2.000	2.30
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Funds				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		6.90
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond ‡	25.92		+ 0.10	4.88
Strategic Inc	31.64	33.05†	- 0.08	5.10
Income Funds				
High Income	34.43	36.11†	- 0.08	4.35
Income Plus #	198.40	211.00	- 0.50	3.30
European Income	76.75	81.44	- 0.06	1.12
Lifebuilder Grth #	46.40	48.73	- 0.05	2.03
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	28.03	29.90	+ 0.07	
American	503.80	535.50	+ 1.70	
Amer Spec Sits	267.80	285.10	+ 1.40	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smaller Cos	18.37	19.50	+ 0.10	..
European	375.00	398.80	+ 0.70	0.27
European Opps	139.50	148.30†	- 0.40	0.38
Global Pur	48.01	51.05†	- 0.08	0.32
UK Growth	181.20	192.70	- 0.10	1.01
Growth & Inc #	284.50	301.30	- 0.90	2.13
Intl PEP	69.460	73.860	+ 0.14	0.93
Japan Spec Sits	57.73	61.24	+ 0.53	
Japan	145.80	154.30	+ 1.20	
Managed Intl	495.90	526.80	+ 2.50	0.56
Moneybuilder Plus	88.43	89.06	+ 0.11	0.29
Recovery	78.950	83.950†	+ 0.12	2.19
South E Asia	150.40	160.20	+ 0.10	1.30
Special Sits	1051.00	1118.00	+ 2.00	1.01
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	124.92	124.92	+ 0.02	6.90
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	188.00	189.70†		1.45
Fissbury Pif Inc #	118.60	137.50	- 0.10	5.19
Cap Ptflio	217.50	219.00	+ 1.20	0.23
General Opps	187.20	188.40†		2.87
Growth Inc	54.30	54.93	- 0.11	1.00
Private Portfolio	654.50	659.30		0.86
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 366 Admin/Vu 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	241.10	256.00		
High Income	24.72	26.20†	- 0.02	8.59
UK Smlr Cos	37.15	38.73	+ 0.01	1.73
US Smaller Cos	609.60	647.80	+ 2.30	
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	125.60	133.10†	+ 0.50	
-do- Accum	125.60	133.10†	+ 0.50	
Amer Smlr Cos	902.70	959.80	- 1.20	
-do- Accum	922.20	980.40	- 1.30	
Capital Tst	483.90	514.80†	+ 1.80	1.28
-do- Accum	722.80	768.90†	+ 2.80	1.26
Cont Smlr Cos	93.18	99.20	- 0.40	
-do- Accum	99.98	106.40	- 0.40	
Convertible	164.10	174.60	- 1.80	5.85
-do- Accum	381.50	405.90	- 3.90	5.85
Emerging Markets	63.41	67.75	- 0.22	0.07
-do- Accum	63.96	68.33	- 0.22	0.07
European	244.90	259.80	- 1.70	
-do- Accum	260.30	276.20	- 1.80	
Extra Income	545.30	580.10	+ 2.80	4.07
-do- Accum	908.20	966.20	+ 4.60	4.07
Financial	306.20	325.70†	+ 0.60	0.38
-do- Accum	329.10	350.10†	+ 0.60	0.38
Gilt Trust	64.02	66.01†	- 0.01	6.71
-do- Accum	108.40	111.70†		6.71
Health Fund Inc	309.10	328.80	+ 2.00	
-do- Accum	309.10	328.80	- 2.00	
Income & Growth	317.60	337.90	- 0.30	3.83
-do- Accum	529.90	563.70	- 0.50	3.83
Intl Growth	542.90	578.20†	- 1.40	
-do- Accum	602.90	642.00†	- 1.60	
Japan & Gen	117.10	124.20	+ 1.20	
-do- Accum	118.30	125.40	+ 1.10	
Monthly Inc #	278.00	295.70†	+ 0.60	3.84
-do- Accum #	293.80	312.60†	+ 0.60	3.84
Managed Port Inc	150.90	158.80†	+ 0.10	1.13
-do- Accum	168.10	176.90†	+ 0.10	1.13
Quarterly Income #	72.94	77.92	- 0.16	4.80
-do- Accum #	89.09	95.17	- 0.21	4.80
UK Growth	88.46	94.11†	- 0.12	1.19
-do- Accum	97.74	104.00†	- 0.10	1.19
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	93.18	99.03	- 0.88	
FP Am Smlr Cos	249.10	265.70	+ 1.70	
FP Asian Growth	163.30	174.10	+ 0.60	
FP Australian	457.20	487.60	+ 5.80	
FP Eqmty Dist	655.20	698.80	- 2.60	1.46
-do- Accum	1496.00	1595.00	- 6.00	1.46
FP Euro Gth	496.00	529.00	- 4.00	
-do- Accum	543.30	579.50	- 4.40	
FP Intl Bond	57.29	60.62	+ 0.18	3.93
FP Intl Gth Dist	51.04	54.44	- 0.08	
-do- Accum	75.25	80.26	- 0.12	
FP Pac Basin Acc	169.80	181.10	+ 1.10	0.12
FP Income #	82.88	88.40	- 0.06	3.90
-do- Accum #	308.60	329.10	- 0.30	3.90
FP Jap Smlr Cos	163.80	174.70	+ 0.80	
FP Monthly Dist #	95.54	101.90†	- 0.10	4.48
FP Stlg Deposit	100.30	100.30†		6.45
FP Tokyo	63.01	67.21	+ 0.69	
FP UK Focus	60.74	64.78†	- 0.28	1.03
FP UK Growth	287.00	306.10	- 1.40	1.01
-do- Accum	595.50	635.20	- 2.70	1.01
Stewardship Dist	546.50	582.90	+ 1.10	1.22
-do- Accum	699.90	746.50	+ 1.30	1.22
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	86.08	91.87	+ 0.08	4.32
-do- Accum #	126.60	135.00	+ 0.10	4.32
Stwdshp Intern	180.50	192.50	..	.
-do- Accum	194.30	207.20	.	.
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	143.70	144.40	- 0.30	2.43
Inst Ethical Ac #	147.30	148.00	- 0.30	2.43
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Grth Acc	169.90	180.70	+ 1.90	0.47
Open Cap Gth Acc	168.50	179.20	+ 0.90	
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	148.50	157.90	+ 1.30	2.38
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	162.70	173.00	+ 1.42	2.38
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	154.30	164.10	+ 0.60	2.86
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	172.10	183.00	+ 0.70	2.86
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	425.00	447.40	- 1.20	1.64
Cash	49.88	50.63	+ 0.01	6.29
Income Portfolio	86.24	101.30	- 0.30	2.34
GA Equity Gth	317.30	337.60	- 0.10	1.09
GA European Gth	205.70	217.90†	- 2.00	.
GA Japan Gth	74.67	78.93†	+ 0.90	.
GA Nth Amer Gth	359.90	378.60†	+ 2.60	..
GA Intl Gth	168.20	170.10†	- 0.60	..
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	300.40	320.60	- 1.50	0.10
European Gth	1121.00	1189.00	- 9.00	0.14
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	68.17	72.09†	- 0.11	2.58
-do- Accum	80.16	84.77	- 0.13	2.58
High Yield #	56.55	59.75	- 0.31	6.61
-do- Accum #	68.30	72.16	- 0.38	6.61
Income Inc	270.30	289.10	- 0.90	2.96
-do- Accum	323.50	346.00	- 1.10	2.96
Intl Growth	448.20	474.70	+ 1.60	1.74
Intl Income	134.30	142.10		1.79
Japan Growth	387.60	410.60		0.03
Orient Acc	136.60	145.70	+ 0.20	0.21
UK Blue Chip Inc	279.20	297.90		1.02
UK Blue Chip Acc	506.80	540.90	+ 0.10	1.02
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	90.36	96.65	+ 0.75	1.20
US Growth	276.40	292.30	+ 2.70	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	85.11	90.71	+ 0.38	1.27
Practical Inv Inc #	158.94	171.06†	+ 0.11	2.81
-do- Accum #	399.42	427.19†	+ 0.29	2.81
UK Index	258.25	259.55†	- 0.33	2.26
UK Smaller Cos	297.60	318.29	+ 0.50	1.05
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	26.51	27.47†	- 0.07	6.88
High Income	*49.58*	*52.86*	*- 0.03*	*2.19*
UK Growth & Inc	224.92	239.74	+ 0.68	1.98
Global Bond	27.54	28.54†	+ 0.08	5.43
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	45.01	48.14†	+ 0.30	.
Global Managed	175.21	185.71†	+ 0.23	0.79
Gold & Intl Res	78.93	84.42	+ 1.19	.
Global Utilities	220.75	235.14	- 0.42	1.26
Overseas Funds				
American	286.88	303.49	+ 1.23	
European	218.72	232.33	- 0.90	0.32
Euro Sel Opps	360.87	383.77	- 1.05	
Amer Emerging	237.63	252.80	+ 1.54	
Hong Kong	124.16	132.60	- 0.24	2.79
Japan	140.13	148.22	+ 1.09	
Pacific Growth	147.03	157.25	+ 0.68	0.78
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Cash Trust	157.46	157.46†	+ 0.02	6.89
Managed Equity	330.72	330.72†	- 0.25	1.55
Long Term Bal	345.75	345.75†	- 0.11	2.33
Med Term Bal	282.44	282.44†	- 0.18	2.86
UK Equity	427.95	427.95	- 0.24	1.26
UK Emerging Cos	216.81	216.81	+ 0.32	1.74
American	477.51	477.51†	+ 1.29	0.29
Japan	87.89	87.89†	+ 0.90	
European	558.26	558.26†	- 2.62	0.60
Index Linked Gilt	220.21	220.21†	- 0.17	2.38
Fixed Interest	212.82	212.82	- 0.21	6.08
Amer Emerges	534.78	534.78†	+ 4.77	..
Pacific	132.79	132.79	+ 0.54	1.51
Emerging Mkts	134.82	134.82	+ 0.43	0.08
Index Strat Japan	92.92	92.92	+ 0.74	0.58
-do- Pacific Rim	123.58	123.58	+ 0.76	3.20
-do- Cont Europe	301.72	301.72	- 1.20	1.09
Index Strat USA	300.71	300.71	+ 2.70	0.95
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	156.54	166.52	- 0.13	
Med Term Bal	135.35	143.98	- 0.10	
Long Term Bal	156.32	166.30	- 0.05	
UK Equity	200.38	213.17	- 0.12	
UK Emerging Cos	102.56	109.10	- 0.16	
American	222.23	236.41	+ 0.64	
Japan	42.05	44.73	+ 0.46	
European	233.06	247.93	- 1.16	
Fixed Interest	110.84	117.91	- 0.22	
Index Linked Gilt	98.32	104.59	- 0.09	
Deposit	95.50	101.59	+ 0.01	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	189.19	199.15†	+ 0.65	0.43
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Intl Gwth Inc ‡	963.07		+ 4.77	.
-do- Accum ‡	1093.18		+ 5.47	
European Gth Inc ‡	251.93		- 1.27	0.23
Amalgam Inc	211.02	222.51	- 6.89	.
N Amer Grwth Inc ‡	641.74		+ 4.51	
Far East Gth Inc ‡	268.75		+ 12.70	0.52
-do- Accum ‡	357.60		- 9.54	0.46
UK Dvld Inc ‡	781.17		+ 1.01	0.99
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9888				
European	890.20	951.00	- 12.30	.
Gilt & Fixed	145.70	154.50	- 0.60	4.94
Growth Equity	581.50	621.20	- 1.50	0.91
Income Trust	213.60	228.10	- 0.80	3.45
International	258.90	276.50†	- 0.50	
Japan Trust	88.10	94.12	+ 1.25	
Nth American	515.40	550.10†	+ 4.10	
Pacific	362.90	387.70†	+ 1.40	0.56
Guardfolio	835.10	892.30	- 2.60	1.12
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
European Bond	99.35	103.10	+ 0.16	4.28
Global High Inc	94.27	97.86	+ 0.39	4.98
Stlg Bond Pflo	117.11	121.55†	- 0.32	5.41
Cash Mgd Pflo	150.09	159.58†	- 0.16	3.78
European Pflo	200.03	212.68	- 0.61	
World Mkts Pflo	96.71	102.77	- 0.05	0.19
Uk Eq Inc Pflo	205.54	218.54	- 1.29	2.49
-do- Accum	316.68	336.71	- 1.99	2.49
UK Opps	592.60	630.10†	- 9.10	2.14
-do- Accum	731.40	777.60	- 11.30	2.14
St Vnc High Inc	169.89	172.43	- 3.69	4.60
Uk Emerg Cos	316.90	336.90	- 0.40	3.10
Inst Uk Sml Co	398.60	405.60	+ 1.20	3.17
Glob Priv Tst	168.62	179.29	+ 0.23	0.97
-do- Accum	176.37	187.53	+ 0.23	0.97
Inc Share Tst	133.30	141.73	+ 0.17	6.40
HF & China Tst	75.86	80.66	+ 0.04	1.11
Blue Chip Pflo	346.48	368.40	- 1.78	1.73
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Balanced Inc	74.95	79.48		2.34
Balanced Acc	82.76	87.78		2.34
Growth	47.42	50.29†	- 0.03	1.20
Growth Acc	50.15	53.16	- 0.03	1.20
Income	43.66	46.30†		3.08
Income Acc	48.96	51.92		3.08
Accumulation Tst	39.69	43.00	- 0.02	2.28
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 690 230 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Port Acc	63.01	66.85†		2.27
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0645 484949 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	503.42	538.64	- 0.34	
Best of British	100.64	107.19	- 0.62	1.17
UK Smaller Cos	206.48	221.86	+ 0.56	0.15
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	432.41	460.34	- 0.72	1.94
-do- Accum #	1273.32	1355.59	- 2.10	1.94
High Income	472.33	504.97†	- 0.66	3.07
Extra Income #	391.95	416.83†	- 0.92	4.67
Pref & Bond	58.76	61.90†	- 0.07	6.79
International				
Ethical	168.50	180.20	+ 0.87	1.49
International	394.72	418.66†	+ 1.36	0.41
Global Bond	53.26	56.08†	+ 0.16	5.12
Ind Port Tst	128.04	136.87	- 0.29	
Global Tech	337.12	358.85	+ 0.98	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	151.17	161.42	+ 0.89	0.74
European	998.05	1058.19†	- 0.80	0.07
European Income #	142.21	150.73	- 0.89	2.23
Euro Smlr Cos	290.98	311.72†	+ 0.53	..
European Value	143.84	153.20†	+ 0.24	..
-do- Accum	155.65	165.57	+ 0.27	
Japan Trust	122.54	129.92	+ 1.21	
Japan Smlr Cos	107.07	113.70†	+ 1.02	...
Pacific Smlr Cos	172.82	183.90†	+ 0.55	.
North American	484.52	513.58	+ 3.14	
American Smaller	265.63	282.33†	+ 3.17	.
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0800 530053				
British	182.68	191.23†	- 0.25	1.37
Capital	270.24	282.87	- 0.34	0.87
Dollar	747.93	783.18	+ 7.41	
Enterprise Gth	589.73	617.52†	+ 3.20	0.82
European	429.12	449.34	- 1.03	
Far East	198.32	207.67	- 0.34	1.02
Financial	1720.16	1801.22†	- 11.80	1.05
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.17	30.34†	- 0.07	5.48
High Yield	160.79	168.36	- 0.56	3.56
Income & Growth	235.15	246.23†	- 0.32	2.52
International	384.86	403.00	+ 0.90	0.30
Japanese General	141.42	148.09	+ 1.22	
Japan Tech	64.53	67.57	+ 0.46	
Nat Resources	65.60	68.69†	+ 1.64	1.01
Portfolio	110.28	115.48†	- 0.02	2.18
Special Sits	298.88	312.94	+ 1.76	1.26
UK Emerging Cos	151.93	159.09	+ 0.08	0.87
US Smaller Cos	210.44	220.36	+ 0.89	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 888 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	918.10	979.80	- 1.00	3.81
UK Growth	984.50	1049	- 3.00	1.19
High Income #	161.30	172.10†	- 0.20	4.80
Active Funds-International				
American Grth	909.40	960.80†	+ 4.70	
European Grth	259.60	276.40	- 1.00	
Japan Grth	210.60	223.70	+ 2.80	
Japan Smlr Cos	17.86	19.06	+ 0.07	
Asian	36.47	38.92	+ 0.15	1.09
Sing & Malay Grth	39.92	42.60	- 0.06	
Hong Kong Grth	146.90	156.50†	- 0.70	1.88
Global Bond	20.89	22.01	+ 0.09	4.50
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	243.10	244.30	- 0.30	2.19
Trust Index	157.20	161.40	+ 1.00	2.09
THE FOOTSIE FUND	98.76	99.36	- 0.34	1.92
Index Funds-International				
American Index	452.30	454.60	+ 3.60	0.38
Eurotrack 100	310.60	312.30	- 1.10	0.38
Japan Index	49.61	49.86	+ 0.42	0.38
Tiger Index	96.50	98.65	- 0.31	1.56
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
Uk Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	58.83	61.44	+ 0.04	1.35
General Funds				
Managed Dist	114.80	119.90	+ 0.10	0.87
Managed	119.50	124.80		0.87
Robert Child Fnd	155.40	162.10†	- 0.10	0.93
UK Growth	98.00	102.30		1.97
High Income Funds				
Uk Extra Inc #	121.90	127.30	- 0.10	4.36
Gilt & Fixed Int #	29.46	30.44†	- 0.10	7.20
UK Inc & Gwth	68.66	71.70†	- 0.06	2.09
UK Income #	535.20	559.00†	- 0.20	3.24
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	87.42	90.46†	+ 0.68	
Amer Smlr Cos	220.10	228.80	+ 0.80	
-do- Accum	222.40	231.30	+ 0.80	
Europe Gth	421.60	439.60	- 2.80	
-do- Accum	436.70	455.30	- 3.00	
Euro Smaller Cos	76.11	79.24	+ 0.29	
French Growth	141.70	147.10	+ 0.90	0.43
-do- Accum	153.40	159.20	+ 0.90	0.43
H Kong & China	98.29	102.40	- 0.60	0.77
Ind Growth	87.98	91.47	- 0.17	0.47
-do- Accum	89.77	93.33	- 0.18	0.47
Japan Gth	19.44	20.25	+ 0.27	..
-do- Accum	19.44	20.29	+ 0.27	..
Japan Smaller Cos	19.98	20.85	+ 0.13	
Glob Emg Mkts	96.05	100.30	- 0.20	0.03
-do- Accum	96.73	101.00	- 0.20	0.03
SE Asia	200.90	209.80†	- 0.40	0.57
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	50.24	51.78	+ 0.19	5.62
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 0870 606 6457 Dealing 0870 606 6407				
UK Income #	157.20	166.40†	- 0.90	2.45
UK Growth	164.90	174.50†	- 0.90	1.21
European Grth	149.80	159.00	- 1.40	1.40
Slater Growth	266.40	281.90	+ 0.60	0.71
New Japan	61.73	66.56	+ 0.40	.
Global Growth	118.20	125.10	- 0.20	
Monthly Inc #	97.29	101.98†	- 0.06	7.50
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	184.10	195.70	+ 3.20	
Income #	305.43	324.91	+ 1.60	3.69
Uk Growth	119.42	127.03	+ 0.12	1.68
Intl Growth	111.01	118.08	+ 0.11	.
Ecology	139.45	148.34†	+ 2.07	0.51



	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European	322.52	342.27	+ 1.09	0.38
Far Eastern	251.40	267.40	+ 2.30	.
UK Special Sits	81.25	86.65†	+ 0.23	0.30
Fd of Inv Tsts	68.83	73.20	- 0.03	0.37
High Income #	69.36	73.89†	- 0.01	4.47
Financial Opps	76.24	81.31	+ 1.44	0.10
Growth & Income #	57.98	61.84	+ 0.21	2.43
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 556 8800				
Bridge Income	414.37	440.82†	- 1.54	4.93
Esk Growth	141.39	150.42†		0.45
Inc & Growth	102.68	109.21	- 0.10	2.85
Smaller Cos	128.47	136.67†	+ 0.30	1.24
Ever Spec Sit Inc	73.80	78.51	+ 0.07	1.47
Ever Spec Sit Acc	78.11	83.10	+ 0.08	1.47
Pennine Growth	62.34	66.32†	+ 0.01	2.68
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	643.20	682.40	- 0.70	1.24
UK Inc/Gth #	670.70	711.60	- 0.70	3.03
UK Income #	478.60	507.80	- 0.20	3.88
UK Income Acc #	487.70	517.40	- 0.20	3.88
UK Sm Cos	377.00	403.20†	- 0.60	1.62
Euro Grth	247.40	261.60	- 0.20	0.21
N Amer Grth	173.10	183.00	+ 0.30	
Pacific Growth	6.76	7.17	- 0.01	0.20
Emg Mkts Grth	73.09	78.40	- 0.53	
Japan Growth	43.13	45.76	+ 0.59	
Dealing: 01277 842626				
Gwth Port Inc	92.25	97.55†	- 0.35	0.54
Gwth Port Acc	94.23	99.65†	- 0.35	0.54
Inc Port Inc	85.47	90.38†	+ 0.21	3.62
Inc Port Acc	98.03	104.72†	+ 0.25	2.89
Wwide Port	70.95	75.03	+ 0.29	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01222 448412 Dealing: 01222 683512				
Equity Dist @	849.00	849.00†	- 1.70	1.69
-do- Accum @	1804.00	1804.00†	- 4.00	1.69
Equity Income #	137.90	137.90†	- 0.40	3.95
Uk Tactical Allocta @	95.26	95.26†	- 0.16	5.52
European @	226.50	226.50†	- 0.80	0.04
Far Eastern @	160.90	160.90	+ 0.70	
Fixed Interest @	60.64	60.64†	- 0.14	6.94
Gilt @	100.10	100.10†	- 0.10	5.78
Global Growth @	96.21	96.21	+ 0.08	0.06
Intl Bond @	48.34	48.34†	+ 0.19	4.86
Japanese @	50.05	50.05	+ 0.29	
North American @	329.50	329.50†	+ 2.30	0.07
Pacific Growth @	80.23	80.23†	+ 0.32	0.92
Pacific Index @	31.87	31.87	+ 0.20	3.07
UK Index @	110.90	110.90†	- 0.10	2.18
UK Recovery @	160.40	160.40†		1.03
Uk Smaller Cos @	211.70	211.70		0.94
US Index @	131.40	131.40	+ 1.00	0.57
European Index @	145.20	145.20†	- 0.50	0.60
Japan Index @	25.37	25.37	+ 0.20	0.04
Worldwide @	128.10	128.10†	- 0.10	0.98
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	81.13	86.77	+ 0.01	1.97
Income	93.12	99.59	- 0.10	3.44
Far East	30.04	32.12†	+ 0.15	0.71
North American	165.70	177.50	+ 1.40	
Global	107.70	115.10	- 0.20	0.34
European	166.50	177.70	- 0.50	0.26
Japan	61.78	65.84	+ 0.63	
Intl Currency Bd	55.53	58.84†	+ 0.27	4.69
SE Asia	59.20	63.31†	- 0.16	1.16
UK Cap Growth	145.80	156.90†	- 0.20	1.25
Recovery Trust	113.90	121.80†		2.09
Managed	86.55	92.56	+ 0.17	1.29
Cash	50.72	50.72	+ 0.01	6.68
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 330 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	592.80	630.70	- 0.60	1.68
-do- Accum	1441.00	1534.00	- 2.00	1.68
Cond Euro Grh	120.70	127.40	- 0.90	0.07
-do- Accum	130.70	137.60	- 1.10	0.07
Extra Inc #	411.90	438.20	- 5.50	3.41
Extra Inc Acc #	1187.60	1263.00	- 15.00	3.41
FTSE 100 Inc	184.70	196.50	- 0.70	1.68
FTSE 100 Acc	196.80	209.40	- 0.70	1.68
German Gth	225.60	237.50†	- 2.50	0.08
-do- Accum	236.50	249.00	- 2.70	0.08
Growth Port	901.20	958.80†	- 1.20	0.31
-do- Accum	948.40	1009.00	- 2.00	0.31
High Interest Inc	112.90	117.00†	- 0.49	6.58
High Interest Acc	130.40	135.20	- 0.50	6.58
Hi Reserve Inc #	136.80	145.60	- 0.40	4.61
Hi Reserve Acc #	159.80	170.00	- 0.50	4.61
Income Inc #	804.60	856.00†	- 0.70	3.02
Income Acc #	2394.00	2547.00	- 2.00	3.02
Income Port	746.80	794.50†	- 6.50	3.49
-do- Accum	888.60	945.40	- 7.70	3.49
Japan Growth	73.13	77.80†	- 0.40	..
-do- Accum	73.38	78.07	- 0.40	
Master Trust	88.12	93.75	- 0.66	1.15
-do- Accum	103.40	110.10	- 0.70	1.15
Millennium Acc	137.20	146.00		1.56
N American Grn	372.80	396.60	+ 4.40	0.50
-do- Accum	431.50	459.10	+ 5.20	0.50
Nhm Sm Co Rec	256.60	272.00†	+ 0.60	
-do- Accum	260.90	277.60	+ 0.50	
Pacific Basin	164.70	175.30	- 0.30	0.57
-do- Accum	177.60	189.00	- 0.20	0.57
Safety First Acc	125.50	132.70†	+ 0.60	1.22
Do untl 2 10/98 ‡	113.15			
Small Cos Rec	616.90	649.40	- 0.10	1.81
-do- Accum	868.30	911.50	- 0.10	1.81
UK Eq Gth	239.10	254.40†	- 0.50	1.94

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Eq Inc #	187.70	199.70†	- 0.20	3.04
UK Growth	153.60	163.50	- 0.20	1.34
UK Growth	196.90	209.50	- 0.30	1.34
Worldwide Gth	466.20	496.00	- 0.40	0.24
-do- Accum	690.00	734.10	- 0.70	0.24
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
General	156.78	168.21	- 0.13	2.08
Income	105.60	113.40†	+ 0.01	3.40
International	97.51	98.18	+ 0.11	0.30
Est of Inv Trusts	98.86	106.07†	+ 0.09	0.90
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Srvs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
American	718.50	756.60	+ 6.10	0.44
-do- Accum	902.70	953.00	+ 7.60	0.44
Amer Recovery	871.00	921.10	+ 6.60	0.19
-do- Accum	1007.40	1065.40	+ 7.70	0.19
Amer Smlr Cos	206.10	217.90	+ 2.50	..
-do- Accum	210.60	222.70	+ 2.60	..
Australasian	205.10	216.90	+ 6.60	1.90
-do- Accum	284.80	290.00	+ 8.50	1.90
Blue Chip #	100.60	101.15	- 0.24	3.17
-do- Accum #	311.00	312.62	- 0.74	3.11
British Opps	76.10	80.50†		2.26
-do- Accum	276.80	282.70†		2.26
Capital	1234.90	1305.90	+ 1.10	2.33
-do- Accum	1523.30	1610.80	+ 1.30	2.33
Charifund #	1105.50	1175.60	- 4.30	4.37
-do- Accum #	6143.30	6204.60	- 23.70	4.37
Commodity	375.10	386.70	+ 18.20	1.30
-do- Accum	556.80	588.90	+ 27.00	1.30
Corporate Bond	28.60	29.67†	- 0.03	6.00
Dividend	60.80	64.40	+ 0.10	3.78
-do- Accum	287.00	303.40	+ 0.40	3.76
Equity Income #	426.50	451.00†	+ 1.40	4.41
-do- Accum #	631.60	668.10†	+ 2.00	4.41
European	983.80	1040.40	+ 2.10	0.31
-do- Accum	1269.80	1342.90	+ 2.80	0.31
Euro Dividend #	120.50	127.40	+ 0.10	2.83
-do- Accum #	159.30	168.40	+ 0.10	2.83
Euro Smlr Cos	79.90	84.50	+ 0.20	0.50
-do- Accum	80.10	84.70	+ 0.10	0.50
Extra Income #	653.70	691.30†	- 2.30	4.19
-do- Accum #	2334.20	2468.50†	- 8.40	4.19
Fund of Inv Tsts	897.30	948.90	+ 0.40	1.03
-do- Accum	1759.70	1861.00	+ 0.80	1.03
Gilt Income	70.70	70.82	- 0.12	5.40
-do- Accum	232.09	232.47	- 0.41	5.40
Gold	46.70	49.40	+ 2.30	0.33
-do- Accum	56.40	59.80	+ 2.90	0.33
High Interest	25.32	25.32	+ 0.01	7.25
Income #	46.90	49.60		3.63
-do- Accum #	211.80	224.20	- 0.20	3.63
Intl Growth	104.30	110.30	+ 0.60	0.67
-do- Accum	185.70	196.50	+ 1.10	0.67
International Inc #	142.40	150.60†	+ 0.60	3.70
-do- Accum #	239.10	252.90†	+ 1.10	3.70
Japan	24.00	25.30	+ 0.40	0.02
-do- Accum	25.70	27.10	+ 0.40	0.02
Japan Smlr Cos	85.20	89.90	+ 0.60	0.06
-do- Accum	85.80	90.50	+ 0.60	0.06
Managed Gwth @	33.10	33.35	+ 0.10	1.18
Managed Income #	38.90	39.27†	+ 0.02	3.89
Pension Ex	1525.60	1563.80	- 0.70	2.73
Recovery	65.60	69.40		2.28
-do- Accum	116.60	123.40		2.28
Smaller Cos	79.40	84.00	+ 0.10	1.86
-do- Accum	170.80	180.80	+ 0.30	1.86
Sth East Asia	257.00	271.60	+ 2.40	2.19
-do- Accum	349.00	369.10	+ 3.20	2.19
Trustee #	59.10	62.50		4.09
-do- Accum #	268.50	284.10		4.09
UK Equity #	92.80	98.10	- 0.10	3.55
-do- Accum #	265.40	280.60	- 0.30	3.55
UK Growth	1561.30	1672.20	+ 0.70	1.42
-do- Accum	1788.50	1891.30	+ 0.90	1.42
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	168.81	179.58†	- 0.77	0.22
Intl Bond	61.96	65.05	+ 0.38	3.41
Intl Equity Growth	109.13	115.82	- 0.15	0.40
N Amer Growth	201.32	213.44†	+ 0.49	0.35
Special Sits Growth	40.46	43.04†		1.43
UK Growth	660.98	703.16†	- 0.16	1.75
-do- Accum	939.24	999.19	- 0.16	1.75
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1601.40	1624.90		2.60
Income #	1324.30	1343.70	.	3.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	226.70	231.80†	.	3
MANEK INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0171 615 7070				
Growth Fd Acc	114.00	121.60	+ 0.30	
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Income #	109.20	112.60	- 0.40	5.95
Investment Pflo	232.80	240.00	+ 0.10	1.78
-do- Accum	284.30	293.00	+ 0.29	1.78
UK Select Pflo	226.20	233.20	- 0.40	1.49
-do- Accum	280.50	289.20	- 0.50	1.49
UK 100 Cos	176.00	176.00†	- 0.80	1.54
-do- Accum	183.70	183.70†	- 0.80	1.54
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 384 842				
Managed Tst	82.82	88.11†	+ 0.32	2.95
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	111.70	118.60†		3.64
European	157.20	166.90	- 0.20	0.20
Income #	116.30	123.50	- 0.20	3.25
Nth American	128.80	136.70	+ 0.80	0.17
Far East	135.40	143.70	+ 0.50	
Japan	50.05	53.13†	+ 0.42	
Emging Mkts	85.53	91.48	- 0.06	0.63
Intl Growth	156.80	166.50†	+ 0.20	0.57
UK Growth	165.60	175.80	+ 0.30	1.56
UK Smlr Co	72.87	77.36	- 0.08	1.42
Asia Pacific	28.17	30.13	+ 0.38	0.10
Glob Grth PEP	83.46	88.58	+ 0.09	0.55
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	124.00	132.00†	.	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Income	678.89	722.33†	- 1.84	2.49
Global Inc	103.87	110.50†	- 0.83	2.19
Brit Leaders Inc	520.15	553.35†	- 0.41	1.68
Intl Leaders	325.37	346.14†	+ 0.28	0.30
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	422.60	445.40	+ 4.800	
-do- Accum	451.90	476.20	+ 5.000	
American Opps	166.70	176.80	+ 0.800	
-do- Accum	168.80	179.00	+ 0.800	
Bal Port	122.10	129.40†	- 0.20	2.30
-do- Accum	155.80	165.20†	- 0.20	2.30
British Blue Chip	140.50	149.20†	- 0.30	2.21
-do- Accum	187.10	198.60†	- 0.40	2.21
Cash	101.50	101.50	.	7.06
-do- Accum	159.90	159.90		7.06
Emerging Mkts	133.70	143.80	.	0.21
-do- Accum	135.60	145.80		0.21
European Growth	517.50	548.20	- 6.00	0.10
-do- Accum	564.90	598.30	- 6.70	0.10
General	798.40	847.30†	- 2.70	1.90
-do- Accum	1683.00	1786.00†	- 8.00	1.90
Global Bond	127.80	134.20†	+ 0.300	3.58
-do- Accum	181.60	190.80†	+ 0.300	3.58
Gold & General	151.50	162.80	+ 8.000	0.38
-do- Accum	156.80	168.50	+ 8.400	0.38
Govt Securities	105.10	108.39	- 0.20	4.69
-do- Accum	236.80	244.10	- 0.70	4.69
High Yield Bd	112.90	115.60†	- 0.40	5.23
-do- Accum	129.80	133.00†	- 0.40	5.23
Income	268.80	285.10	- 0.10	3.15
-do- Accum	470.30	500.50	- 0.20	3.15
Inc Portfolio #	142.40	150.80†	- 0.50	4.67
-do- Accum #	166.20	176.00†	- 0.50	4.67
Intl Opps	733.20	782.10	+ 3.100	0.65
-do- Accum	993.80	1066.00	+ 4.000	0.65
Japan	132.10	140.50	+ 1.700	
-do- Accum	135.60	144.20	+ 1.700	
New Europe	345.30	368.30	+ 8.900	0.76
-do- Accum	364.30	388.60	+ 1.100	0.76
Pacific	69.81	74.25	- 0.220	0.29
-do- Accum	75.09	80.10	+ 0.250	0.29
Recovery	604.00	644.30†	- 1.10	1.44
-do- Accum	818.90	873.50†	- 1.50	1.44
Uk Smaller Cos	74.59	79.56†	+ 0.030	1.48
-do- Accum	87.54	93.38†	+ 0.050	1.48
Managed Grn	156.90	164.00	+ 0.100	1.55
Managed Inc	151.30	157.00	- 0.20	3.52
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	88.22	92.38†	- 0.06	2.80
-do- Accum	100.60	105.30†	- 0.10	2.00
British Tst	152.60	159.80	- 0.60	1.13
-do- Accum	189.50	198.40	- 0.80	1.13
Corp Bond Inc	109.10	113.10	- 0.30	5.86
-do- Accum	120.80	125.20	- 0.30	5.86
Extra High Inc #	93.84	98.26†	- 0.23	5.10
-do- Accum #	218.70	229.00†	- 0.50	5.10
FTSE 100 Acc	107.50	112.60	- 0.40	1.53
FTSE 100 Dist	98.08	102.70	- 0.30	1.53
Gilt & Fxd Int	61.25	63.74	- 0.01	5.72
-do- Accum	210.70	219.20	- 0.10	5.72
High Yield #	331.50	347.10	- 0.38	4.86
-do- Accum #	976.20	1022	- 1.00	4.86
Household Names	140.10	140.80		1.13
Income #	460.50	482.20	- 0.70	3.41
-do- Accum #	1137	1191	- 2.00	3.41
Money Market UT	49.82	49.82	+ 0.01	6.64
-do- Accum	89.51	89.51	+ 0.02	6.64
Monthly Income	131.10	137.30†	- 0.20	3.55
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	197.90	210.50	- 1.00	1.57
European Growth	232.30	246.30	+ 2.50	
Gilt & Fixed	119.60	126.60		5.54
Income	155.80	165.70	- 0.30	3.12
Japan Growth	32.14	34.07	- 0.31	
Managed	109.70	116.70	- 0.10	2.05
Money Market	104.20	110.40		4.95
North American	160.70	170.30	+ 2.20	
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	179.40	190.80	- 0.90	1.57
European Growth	217.80	230.80	+ 2.20	
Gilt & Fixed Int	111.60	117.70		5.58
Income	152.50	162.20	- 0.20	3.12
Japan Growth	32.20	34.14	+ 0.31	
Managed	105.40	112.10	- 0.10	2.04
Money Market	95.99	101.70		4.95
North American	143.60	152.20	+ 2.00	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	177.00	188.30	- 1.90	1.58
European Growth	212.90	225.78	+ 2.20	
Gilt & Fixed Int	98.74	104.70		5.66
Income	146.90	156.30	- 1.70	3.15
Japan Growth	32.69	34.65	+ 0.32	..
Manager	108.00	114.90	- 0.10	2.05
Money Market	86.17	91.34	- 0.02	5.00
North American	160.70	170.30	+ 2.30	..
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Grwth	686.40	726.30	- 7.00	..
European Gth Inc	812.90	862.30	- 1.80	..
-do- Accum	821.80	871.70	- 1.80	..
Intl Gwth	306.20	324.10†	+ 1.20	
UK Equity Inc	305.40	323.90†	- 0.90	2.31
Do Accum	437.30	463.80†	- 1.30	2.31
UK Growth Inc	184.40	197.60	- 0.50	2.56
-do- Accum	193.00	206.60	- 0.60	2.56
UK Ind Trckr Inc	279.80	298.00	- 0.60	2.19
-do- Accum	357.90	381.20	- 0.60	2.19
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	433.70	458.40†	+ 3.70	0.73
Japan Trackers	44.96	47.42	+ 0.40	
Asian Tracker	132.60	143.20†	- 0.58	0.47
Mngd Ptflio Inc	245.30	260.70	+ 0.90	1.38
Mngd Ptflio Acc	273.90	291.10	- 1.80	1.38
Deposit Inc	100.21	100.21†	- 0.02	6.95
Europa	318.80	340.30	+ 0.60	
Genesis	260.80	283.00	+ 1.10	1.93
High Income	22.16	23.49†	- 0.07	10.00
Japan Growth	74.04	78.57	- 0.60	
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 890 933				
American Growth	86.98	88.96	- 0.38	
Equity Income #	147.30	151.20†	- 0.10	3.28
European	130.30	132.70	- 1.50	
Smaller Cos	112.40	117.70	+ 0.70	0.97
Wwide Eqty	98.46	100.50	- 0.10	
Global Bond	41.42	41.86	- 0.10	4.19
UK Growth	151.40	155.50†	- 0.40	0.59
Pacific Growth	72.56	74.46	- 0.25	1.66
Japan Growth	81.37	82.69	- 0.44	
OEICS				
Portfolio Acc A ‡	52.94	...	- 0.10	3.32
Portfolio Inc A ‡	52.94	.	- 0.10	3.33
Gilt Acc A ‡	51.26		- 0.19	6.01
Gilt Inc A ‡	51.26	..	- 0.19	6.01
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	217.71	231.61	+ 0.05	1.57
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	174.60	183.80	+ 1.00	0.01
European Dist	245.80	258.70	- 0.70	0.13
Far East Dist	126.00	132.60	- 0.40	0.05
Global Care Dist	118.90	125.20	+ 0.20	0.08
Oceans Dist	1273.70	1340.70†	+ 3.30	0.18
-do- Accum	1657.40	1744.60	+ 4.30	0.18
UK Dist	614.50	645.80	- 0.50	1.10
-do- Accum	1279.00	1346.20	- 1.10	1.10
UK Extra Inc Dist	127.50	134.20	+ 0.30	2.02
Wwide Dist	140.30	147.70†	- 0.30	0.11
Wwide Inc Dist	109.20	114.90†	+ 0.20	1.48
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 0870 601 6147 Admin Enq: 0870 603 9188				
Europe Inc	127.46	134.52†	- 0.45	0.18
Fund of Funds Inc	87.10	91.93		0.69
North America Inc	94.26	99.48	- 0.41	..
UK Equity Grth Inc	101.48	107.10	+ 0.03	1.06
-do- Accum	112.57	118.81	+ 0.03	1.06
UK General Inc	93.17	98.33†	- 0.10	1.11
-do- Accum	106.21	112.09	- 0.12	1.11
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	50.11	52.78†	- 0.03	5.36
UK Income Inc	93.06	98.22	- 0.05	1.66
UK Smlr Cos Inc	158.76	167.56†	- 0.01	0.98
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	79.01	84.45	- 0.46	
-do- Accum	*80.00*	*85.30*	*- 0.43*	
Bond	138.23	146.74	- 0.44	4.58
Cash Income	51.26	51.26	+ 0.01	6.89
-do- Accum	74.38	74.38	+ 0.01	6.89
Challenger	103.60	105.69	- 0.21	1.39
Distributor	150.13	159.71†	- 0.37	1.81
European	98.14	105.46	- 0.41	
Extl H-L Gilt	102.97	103.02	- 0.15	2.27
Foundation	150.87	160.49†	- 3.35	0.79
Managed Inc	300.16	319.31	- 3.75	0.86
Managed Acc	307.50	327.12	- 3.63	0.85
Growth Inc	194.05	206.43†	- 0.37	0.77
Growth Acc	203.57	216.50†	- 0.32	0.77
Higher Income Inc	48.80	51.91†	- 0.11	3.58
-do- Accum	63.00	67.02†	- 0.15	3.58
High Yield Bond #	101.35	105.83†	- 0.39	7.14
Income	404.75	430.58†	- 3.00	2.87
Interaid	189.64	197.74		0.92
Intl Grth	50.26	53.46†	- 0.49	..
Japan	23.79	25.30	+ 0.20	
Oriental Inc	115.11	122.45	- 1.95	0.34
-do- Accum	119.32	126.94	+ 2.01	0.34
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2555				
High Income #	62.58	66.22†	- 0.30	4.86
UK Growth	155.90	165.00	...	2.18
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	179.22	188.65†	- 0.04	1.11
Uk Equity	243.73	256.56	- 0.02	1.37
Uk Equity Income #	214.90	226.21	- 0.03	4.97
Uk Smaller Cos	190.67	200.71	+ 0.56	1.13
UK Equity Growth	210.66	221.75†	- 0.12	0.67
UK Index Trckg	242.38	255.81	- 0.86	1.87
Intl Index Trckg	219.98	232.17	+ 1.16	0.48
International	350.93	369.40†	+ 0.55	0.90
European	408.76	430.27	- 0.46	0.07
Pan European	257.09	270.62	- 0.33	0.70
Nth American	355.04	373.73	- 1.72	0.11
N Amer Smlr Cos	390.71	411.27	- 2.23	
Japanese	67.03	70.56	+ 0.63	1.18
Pacific	162.86	171.43	+ 1.07	1.43
South East Asian	171.81	180.85†	+ 0.05	1.78
Sterling Bond	111.06	116.91†		5.71
Intl Bond	122.51	128.96	+ 0.56	4.54
Gilt & Convertible	122.22	128.65	- 0.10	5.51
Property	96.97	102.67	- 0.02	4.86
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	564.50	602.70	- 1.30	0.05
-do- Accum	600.00	640.50	- 1.40	0.05
Japan Inc	72.21	76.49	+ 0.47	
Nth American Inc	243.90	257.98	+ 3.40	.
Worldwide Inc	245.60	260.70	+ 1.00	.
HK & China Inc	143.00	153.20	- 1.10	1.27
Swss Equities Inc	141.30	150.60†	+ 1.30	
Wwide Bond Inc	68.26	72.13†	+ 0.19	4.97
Emging Asia Inc	113.90	122.50	- 0.50	2.09
-do- Accum	114.80	123.50	- 0.40	2.09
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.60	50.60	+ 0.01	6.63
Thailand Inc	45.03	48.71	- 0.32	2.31
Int Mngd PEP Inc	99.82	106.60†	.	0.27
Latn Am Cmp Inc	82.65	88.73	- 0.62	1.27
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	100.60	102.10†	- 0.20	1.64
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Blue	100.70	107.10	+ 0.20	0.54
Global Portfolio	*88.57*	*94.73*	*+ 0.54*	.
Way Global Red	77.39	82.33	+ 0.40	0.20
Marsh Global Grth	73.76	78.22†	+ 0.72	.
AMR Brit Gwth Inc	158.20	169.60†	- 0.30	0.55
Temple Equity Inc	59.70	64.16	- 0.34	0.19
Hartley Growth	179.90	191.40	+ 0.20	0.46
IPS Portfolio Inc	123.50	130.70	+ 0.50	...
UFC Growth	80.77	86.39†	+ 0.81	0.92
Chesfield Port of Fds	58.67	62.46		0.12
Pyg Intl Equity	93.78	100.30	+ 0.30	0.05
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	400.50	426.08	- 0.80	1.27
-do- Accum	902.90	960.40	- 1.90	1.27
Growth	264.60	278.58	- 0.50	1.50
Income	383.20	407.60†	- 0.80	2.85
Intl Equity	355.30	377.90	+ 0.10	0.34
-do- Accum	399.00	424.50	+ 0.20	0.34
Equity Income #	103.10	109.50	- 0.30	4.12
Equity Growth	137.90	146.70	- 0.20	1.02
New Europe	168.10	178.70	+ 0.70	0.17
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	893.46	953.57	- 4.40	0.24
-do- Accum	902.70	963.43	- 4.44	0.24
Income #	658.32	704.03†	- 7.10	2.98
Wwide Recovery	590.39	630.63	- 2.32	0.19
Amer Growth Inc	419.03	445.22	- 0.75	0.01
-do- Accum	419.03	445.22	- 0.75	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	348.83	373.09	- 0.36	0.01
Far Esn Gth Inc	226.20	241.93	+ 0.31	1.27
-do- Accum	230.76	246.80	+ 0.31	1.27
Euro Gwth Inc	306.76	327.48	- 2.06	0.01
-do- Accum	307.83	328.62	- 2.06	0.01
UK Growth Inc	163.17	174.38†	- 1.36	1.86
-do- Accum	182.75	195.31	- 1.51	1.86
High Income #	171.81	183.66	- 1.87	3.32
Jap Gwth Inc	133.87	142.24†	+ 2.13	0.27
-do- Accum	133.07	142.24	+ 2.13	0.27
PEP Bond	68.50	71.58	- 0.05	6.88
PEP Growth	197.78	210.97	- 0.74	0.35
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	86.82	92.86	- 0.34	0.01
-do- Accum	87.60	93.69	- 0.36	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	278.60	296.55	+ 0.56	0.01
-do- Accum	278.60	296.55	+ 0.55	0.01
Global Bond	54.45	57.66†	+ 0.13	3.89
UK Smaller Cos Inc	134.56	143.91	+ 0.39	1.70
-do- Accum	145.74	155.87	+ 0.42	1.70
Lat Am Gwth Inc	41.84	43.77	- 0.39	0.23
-do- Accum	41.70	44.48	- 0.39	0.23
World Inc PEP #	54.23	57.39†	- 0.25	3.27
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	188.24	200.26	+ 1.00	..
European	151.45	161.12	+ 1.43	
Global	80.97	84.86	+ 0.32	
Pacific	40.22	42.63†	+ 0.13	
UK Inc & Gth	110.80	117.87†	+ 0.15	1.91
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 0171 588 8890				
Asia	41.86	44.41†	+ 0.07	
Emerg Mkts	44.21	46.91	+ 0.17	0.36
Euro Fund	64.70	68.64	+ 0.46	
Fund of Funds	244.80	257.70	+ 1.10	0.02
High Income #	65.90	69.37†	- 0.01	5.05
Performance	60.58	64.29†	+ 0.28	
PREMIER PORTFOLIO MGRS LTD				
01483 456 832				
Special Sits	267.90	286.50	- 0.20	0.33
Dividend	147.70	158.00	- 0.98	3.16
Intl Gth & Inc	322.10	342.20	+ 1.30	0.63
UK & Gen	68.86	73.67	- 0.79	0.32
Fund of Funds	92.18	98.58†	+ 0.41	.
Prem Bal Growth	84.29	87.76†	+ 0.09	0.66
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	226.96	235.04	- 0.57	2.20
For Prolific UT see Aberdeen Prolific UT				
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 406000 Client Enq: 0345 836600				
Managed Tst	55.07	57.07	+ 0.10	1.75
Cash Haven Inc	101.85	102.25	+ 0.02	6.24
Cash Haven Acc	127.33	127.95	+ 0.01	6.24
Dist Trust Inc	131.35	136.11	- 0.04	4.25
Dist Trust Acc	158.82	164.58	- 0.04	4.25
Global Growth	134.02	142.57	+ 0.11	1.34
Equity Inc	118.44	126.00	+ 0.31	3.52
Equity	1245.73	1325.24†	- 1.64	1.42
European	434.33	450.08	- 0.93	0.20
High Income	117.19	124.67†	- 0.05	4.07
Intl Gth	266.85	283.88	+ 0.53	0.82
Intl Sm Co	111.15	118.24†	+ 0.03	0.82
Japanese	119.76	124.10	+ 1.20	
Mgd Income Tst #	51.77	53.50†	- 0.10	7.07
Nth Amer	360.15	372.68	+ 2.92	0.56
Pacific Mkts	82.85	85.65	+ 0.73	1.77
Premier Inc	51.16	53.24†	- 0.09	5.69
Sm Cos	136.98	145.72†	+ 3.91	1.52
Spec Sits	172.15	183.14	+ 0.16	1.55
UK Growth	211.37	224.86	- 0.26	1.44
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 558 8880				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	115.63	121.58†	- 1.76	2.88
Investment Trust	153.07	160.95†	+ 0.97	0.31
UK Smaller Cos	138.33	145.45	+ 0.53	1.75
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	49.70	52.70	- 0.40	2.03
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000 Client Services: 0800 124 314				
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	36.41	38.02	+ 0.02	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cash	48.77	50.79	+ 0.07	5.41
Emerging Mkts	49.11	51.28	+ 0.23	.
Europe	98.34	102.70	- 0.40	
Global Fixed Int #	49.95	52.16	+ 0.02	4.41
Japan	29.24	30.53	+ 0.18	
North America	97.46	101.89	+ 0.80	...
UK	94.35	98.53	+ 0.11	
UK Equity Inc #	84.98	88.75	+ 0.16	2.69
UK Fixed Int #	56.50	59.00	- 0.14	6.07
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Grth Port	68.93	71.42	+ 0.23	..
Pep Inc Port #	68.35	70.82	- 0.11	2.53
Five Arrows Global Investment Funds				
A Shares				
Asian Opps ‡	36.61		† + 0.13	
Asia Pacific ‡	35.73		† + 0.18	0.56
Europe ‡	58.96		† + 0.89	..
Japan ‡	39.62		† - 0.28	0.13
Latin America ‡	41.71		† + 0.21	
North America ‡	56.88		† - 0.10	3.72
UK Eq Income #	58.32		† - 0.30	0.46
UK Major Cos ‡	59.85		† - 0.20	
UK Smaller Cos ‡	62.68		† + 0.06	0.96
ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE UT MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0870 601 6183 Dealing: 0870 601 6083				
Royal & Sun Alliance Trusts				
Equity	1603.00	1696.00	- 4.00	1.14
Equity Income #	161.30	170.60	- 0.40	3.57
European	276.70	292.60	+ 0.10	.
High Inc Bond	52.55	52.63	- 0.04	5.43
Portfolio	152.80	161.60†		0.93
UK Index Trckg	288.70	305.50	- 0.50	2.45
UK Leading Cos	122.10	129.20	- 0.40	1.64
UK Smaller Cos	161.90	171.30	+ 0.10	1.62
Royal Life Trusts				
High Inc Dist	236.20	251.30†	- 0.60	2.60
Intl Cautionary	73.07	77.58	- 0.02	3.71
Intl Growth	102.90	108.80	+ 0.50	
Managed	247.60	266.20	- 0.20	0.42
Pacific Basin	61.73	65.79	+ 0.50	0.56
United States	200.40	212.00	+ 1.30	0.25
Sun Alliance Trusts				
Far East	128.10	135.50	+ 0.80	1.21
North America	291.20	311.48	+ 1.40	.
Wwide Bond	55.23	56.04†	+ 0.24	4.51
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	283.20	300.30	- 0.40	0.90
European Growth	263.90	280.40	- 2.00	0.79
Far East Growth	101.50	108.00	- 0.20	0.22
Japan Growth	83.10	88.37†	+ 0.34	0.64
Special Sits	286.00	304.20†	+ 1.50	1.75
UK Growth	147.20	156.50	- 0.30	2.14
Intl Growth	366.20	389.60†	- 1.30	1.59
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	115.60	122.30	- 0.80	0.87
Ex Euro Prog Inc	664.60	703.30	- 0.60	0.54
-do- Accum	1051.00	1112.00	- 1.00	0.54
Growth Inc	213.60	226.60	+ 1.20	0.22
-do- Accum	219.80	232.60	+ 1.20	0.22
International Inc	573.80	607.20	+ 3.10	0.38
-do- Accum	796.00	842.30	+ 4.30	0.38
Nth Am & Intl Inc	578.30	612.00	+ 4.70	0.22
UK Gen Prog Inc	370.80	392.40	- 0.40	0.95
-do- Accum	436.40	461.80	- 0.50	0.95
UK High Inc Inc	209.20	221.40	- 0.30	3.44
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	64.82	68.70		0.75
European Gwth	148.56	158.03	- 0.12	1.00
Global Bd	59.84	63.21†	- 0.89	5.00
Japan	43.36	45.74		
UK Grth	126.16	134.21	- 0.12	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smlr Cos	*201.30*	*214.20*	*+ 0.70*	
Cash	146.50	146.50†	+ 0.10	6.96
China Dragon	58.81	62.56	- 0.23	0.40
Commodity	120.60	128.28	+ 1.50	
Emerging Mkts	41.73	44.39	- 0.07	0.38
European Gwth	383.10	407.50	- 3.30	..
Euro Smlr Cos	104.30	111.00	+ 0.90	
Extra Income #	74.17	76.86	- 0.34	4.69
Far Eastern	72.84	77.49	+ 0.56	
FE Sm Cos	36.27	38.59	+ 0.31	0.29
Financial Secs	517.80	550.90	+ 5.10	0.69
Gold & Exploration	42.42	45.13	+ 1.74	
Growth	639.40	642.69	+ 0.99	0.40
High Income	54.64	54.64	- 0.15	7.01
Intl Bond	157.00	165.90†	+ 0.90	5.86
IBU	298.60	317.70†	+ 0.10	0.49
Japan Growth	115.90	123.20	+ 1.50	
Japan Smaller	97.48	103.70†	+ 0.70	.
Korea	18.44	19.62	- 0.26	
Latin America	51.45	54.73	- 0.23	0.36
Masterfund	83.86	84.28	- 0.06	0.74
Premier Eq Grth	251.30	267.30	- 0.80	0.80
Premier Eq Inc #	527.20	560.80	- 2.60	3.35
SE Asia	30.87	32.84	+ 0.63	0.70
Southern Africa	56.88	60.51	+ 0.07	0.70
UK & O'seas	263.80	280.40	- 0.20	0.60
UK Eqty Gth	123.60	131.50†	- 0.30	0.83
UK Eqty Inc #	373.79	397.60	- 2.00	3.27
UK Grth & Inc #	444.80	473.20	- 2.20	2.17
UK Sm Cos	78.01	82.99	+ 0.09	0.18
US Growth	327.80	348.70	+ 2.90	..
New Europe ‡	57.88	...	+ 0.91	..
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	501.59	529.66	+ 0.84	0.46
-do- Accum	558.53	589.79	+ 0.94	0.46
European Gwth	138.96	147.18	- 0.38	0.27
Euro Smlr Cos	157.07	167.00	+ 0.95	0.02
-do- Accum	159.34	169.41	+ 0.97	0.02
Far Eastern Gth	86.55	92.31	+ 0.69	0.15
-do- Accum	88.30	94.18	+ 0.70	0.15
Gilt & Fixed Int #	59.07	61.17†	- 0.02	7.81
Global Bond #	44.91	46.40	+ 0.31	5.92
-do- Accum #	57.80	59.72	+ 0.39	5.92
Global Emer Mkts	50.67	54.84†	+ 0.01	0.01
-do- Accum	50.71	54.09†	+ 0.01	0.01
Income #	577.68	616.19†	- 0.72	3.88
-do- Accum #	2065.45	2203.15†	- 2.57	3.88
Japan Smlr Cos	203.92	217.51	+ 0.56	..
-do- Accum	204.33	217.94	+ 0.55	..
Japan Enterprise	46.79	49.90†	+ 0.70	
Pacific Grwth	100.86	107.60	+ 0.39	1.01
-do- Accum	105.86	112.91	+ 0.41	1.01
Portfolio	119.74	127.34	- 0.26	1.62
-do- Accum	136.09	144.73	- 0.29	1.62
Seoul	15.28	16.29	- 0.15	0.72
-do- Accum	15.28	16.29	- 0.15	0.72
Strategic Inc	126.24	134.28		1.80
Strategic Acc	130.27	138.56		1.80
Tokyo	101.16	107.90†	+ 1.01	
-do- Accum	102.16	108.99†	+ 1.03	
UK Enterprise	464.06	494.93	- 0.69	1.73
-do- Accum	591.90	631.28	- 0.89	1.73
UK Equity	425.34	453.69	- 0.60	1.87
-do- Accum	885.20	944.22	- 1.24	1.87
UK Smaller Cos	455.98	486.37	+ 1.35	0.80
-do- Accum	547.74	584.26	+ 1.63	0.80
US Smlr Cos	*384.40*	*409.34*	*+ 0.08*	
-do- Accum	384.40	409.34	- 0.08	
Institutional Funds				
European	453.58	470.10	- 5.11	0.82
-do- Accum	519.22	538.13	- 5.85	0.82
Euro Smlr Cos	49.72	51.71	+ 0.05	0.72
-do- Accum	54.34	56.52	+ 0.06	0.72
Global Equity Inc	117.64	121.94†	+ 0.77	0.61
Japan Smlr Cos	20.44	21.29	+ 0.08	0.25
-do- Accum	20.68	21.53	+ 0.08	0.25
Mngd Balanced	277.35	288.59	- 0.19	2.71
-do- Accum	338.66	352.38	- 0.24	2.71
Overseas Equity	249.96	259.68	- 0.92	0.80
-do- Accum	265.59	275.92	- 0.98	0.80
Oceas Smlr Cos	143.22	149.08	+ 0.47	0.70
-do- Accum	153.26	159.56	+ 0.50	0.70
Pacific	175.43	182.73†	+ 1.41	2.55
-do- Accum	199.92	208.24†	+ 1.60	2.55
Recovery	3156.82	3288.35	+ 3.51	2.52
-do- Accum	3605.98	3756.20	+ 4.01	2.52
UK Index	265.39	276.44	- 1.85	2.46
-do- Accum	354.95	369.73	- 2.47	2.46
UK Small Cos	181.20	188.74	+ 0.87	2.30
-do- Accum	207.26	215.90	+ 1.00	2.30
US Smlr Cos	90.29	93.77†	+ 0.28	0.34
-do- Accum	93.50	97.10†	+ 0.29	0.34
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	85.87	90.81	- 0.36	1.49
Equity Trust	113.47	119.99	- 0.31	1.89
Equity Strategy	116.10	122.78	- 0.42	0.95
European Opps	165.91	174.50	- 0.53	0.21
UK Smaller Cos	96.00	101.52	+ 0.04	0.98
Maximum Inc	99.33	101.91	+ 0.02	5.96
Japanese	45.96	48.60	+ 0.61	
Asia Pacific	82.46	87.20	+ 0.67	1.48
American	202.00	213.34	+ 1.79	0.52
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	35.88	35.88		6.89
UK Eq Gwth Inc	86.25	91.82	- 0.30	2.01
-do- Accum	119.94	127.68	- 0.43	2.01
Intl Income	387.32	412.72†	- 0.31	1.17
-do- Accum	695.77	740.33†	- 0.56	1.17
European	165.68	176.12	- 1.03	0.79
Japan	46.99	49.77	+ 0.46	0.01
American	155.49	164.32	+ 1.24	0.64
Far East Tact	61.87	66.00	+ 0.28	2.07
Ethical Inc	51.80	55.40	+ 0.02	1.38
-do- Accum	81.00	86.24	+ 0.82	1.38
UK Blue Chip Inc	57.59	61.36	- 0.14	1.98
-do- Accum	71.84	76.54	- 0.18	1.98
UK Equity Inc	61.01	65.08	- 0.24	3.06
-do- Accum	92.60	98.77	- 0.36	3.06
UK Global Inc	68.20	72.63	- 0.17	1.23
-do- Accum	76.08	81.00	- 0.19	1.23
Wwide Tact	113.99	121.45†	- 0.06	0.92
Europe Tactical	121.81	130.02	- 0.75	0.47
Technology	223.47	237.08†	+ 0.86	0.31
Dist Inc	31.74	33.68	- 0.10	4.92
-do- Accum	34.18	36.27	- 0.11	4.92
UK Ext Inc Inc	26.76	28.25†	- 0.12	6.80
-do- Accum	29.82	31.59†	- 0.13	6.80
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	729.60	776.10	+ 2.10	1.56
American	509.30	538.80	+ 4.20	0.12
Pacific	308.10	320.30	+ 2.60	0.31
European	968.70	1029.30	- 4.90	0.56
Worldwide	109.60	116.50	+ 0.10	0.24
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	474.10	504.30	- 0.60	1.48
-do- Accum	642.10	683.00	- 0.70	1.48
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	313.80	333.80	+ 1.30	1.64
-do- Accum	392.90	417.90	+ 1.60	1.64
Select Oppnty Inc	115.20	123.20†	+ 0.10	1.43
Income Plus Inc	123.50	131.30†	- 0.20	3.08
European Inc	663.60	704.70†	- 1.60	0.45
-do- Accum	769.80	817.50	- 1.90	0.45
Far Eastern Inc	119.80	127.40†	+ 0.30	1.31
-do- Accum	140.80	149.70	+ 0.30	1.31
Japanese Inc	42.67	45.60†	+ 0.41	..
Nth American Inc	515.10	546.60	+ 0.50	
-do- Accum	570.60	605.50	+ 0.50	
Intl Growth Inc	269.50	286.40		0.24
Wwide Venture Inc	119.40	126.90†		0.33
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 655 3724				
Equity Inc	617.10	652.00	- 1.90	1.66
-do- Accum	973.30	1028.60	- 3.00	1.66
UK High Inc #	295.30	312.00	- 1.30	2.98
-do- Accum #	477.90	504.90	- 2.00	2.98
Europe Inc	760.70	803.70	+ 5.20	0.15
Nth Amer Inc	448.90	474.30	+ 2.80	
Gilt/Bond Inc	326.50	345.00	+ 1.10	0.15
Global Acc	354.50	374.50	+ 1.20	0.15
UK Spec Sits Inc	173.00	182.80	- 0.50	1.40
South East Asia	135.00	142.60	- 0.10	0.86
Cash Trust Inc	102.10	102.10	+ 0.10	6.68
UK Smlr Cos Inc	147.30	155.60	+ 0.10	1.72
-do- Accum	158.60	167.50	+ 0.10	1.72
Intl Bond Inc	88.16	92.80	+ 0.40	3.19
International Strat	101.60	107.50	+ 0.20	
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	247.70	260.70	- 2.20	0.14
Nth American	195.80	206.10	+ 1.30	
Intl Bond & Curr	139.80	147.10	- 0.20	5.43
Pooled Pension	321.20	345.40	- 0.50	1.84
Smaller Cos	154.90	163.10	+ 0.30	0.84
UK General #	235.00	248.00	- 0.20	1.73
Far Eastern	62.09	65.35†	- 0.53	0.90
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6225				
Continental	144.00	151.80	- 1.00	0.69
Global Gwth	105.10	110.80†	...	0.50

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Tst Port	74.24	78.97	- 0.02	1.80
Managed	1736.90	1814.22	- 0.63	2.10
Pref Inc #	116.60	124.00†	- 0.10	6.00
Smaller Cos	330.00	351.00	+ 0.90	0.80
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	122.39	..	† + 0.37	3.85
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.53		† - 0.02	7.80
Corporate Inc ‡	107.54		† + 0.26	6.00
Tar Port ‡	79.21		† + 0.17	.
Aztec ‡	83.83		† - 0.14	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	195.00	..	† + 1.28	
European ‡	253.06		† - 1.89	
Global Bond ‡	88.82		† + 0.25	6.25
Samurai ‡	40.34		† + 0.66	.
UK Growth ‡	141.11		† + 0.33	2.85
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	107.98	..	† + 0.29	2.55
Investment Trust ‡	140.56		† + 0.14	2.59
The Football Fd ‡	84.27	.	† + 0.29	
Reserve Roll Up ‡	104.91		- 0.03	
Dmars Reserve ‡	99.87		† + 0.78	3.72
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	648.30	684.80	+ 2.90	
Capital	196.10	207.50		0.93
Cash	100.60	100.60†	+ 0.01	6.89
European	240.20	254.10	- 0.90	0.03
Far Eastern	132.40	140.10	- 0.30	0.07
Growth	239.20	253.00	- 0.70	0.86
Income #	188.60	198.50†	- 0.10	4.59
Magnum	200.60	212.30	- 0.20	1.05
Smlr Secs	791.60	837.60†	+ 0.80	
Thoroughbred	235.10	248.80†	- 0.20	0.80
SOCIETE GENERALE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dealing Desk 0171 615 0062				
UK Growth Acc	97.20	103.40	.	1.45
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0800 73 11 093				
Cntrld Prtence	68.70	73.43	+ 0.07	6.50
Ethical	104.10	111.30		0.86
European Growth	127.20	134.80	- 0.20	
Income #	81.23	86.87	- 0.04	3.75
Intl Growth	136.50	144.60	+ 0.30	0.12
Managed	127.00	134.50	+ 0.10	0.16
UK Growth	96.01	102.60	- 0.20	1.09
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	58.95	59.25	- 0.28	1.39
Global Advtg Acc	64.99	65.32	- 0.30	1.39
Income Advtg Inc	51.08	51.34†	- 0.28	2.50
Income Advtg Acc	62.31	62.63†	- 0.30	2.50
UK Equity Gth Acc	153.40	162.70	- 1.10	0.66
Premier Inc Inc	54.76	56.68†	- 0.39	5.97
Premier Inc Acc	63.76	66.00†	- 0.20	5.97
Managed Acc	81.41	86.30	- 0.30	1.61
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	58.85	62.39†	- 0.20	3.07
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	82.68	87.65†	- 0.30	3.07
UK Ethical	52.85	54.71		1.15
UK Smlr Cos Acc	71.53	75.83	- 0.20	0.44
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	117.60	125.20†	- 0.40	1.16
UK Equity Gen Inc	82.38	87.53†	- 0.30	1.16
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	34.79	36.80†	- 0.20	5.53
Oceas Lrg Co Acc	425.80	462.10	- 0.90	2.04
Nth American Acc	83.59	88.82		
Pacific Basin	32.09	34.10		1.25
European Acc	85.46	90.81	- 0.30	0.16
Japan Acc	20.21	21.48	+ 0.18	
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZS)	6.021	6.396	- 0.040	1.76
US Eqts (US$)	4.997	5.291	..	0.02
Far East Eqts (yen)	232.90	247.40		.
FT Europe	239.40	253.49		0.89
FT N Amer (US$)	4.5655	4.877		
FT Japan (yen)	127.40	134.60		
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.245	2.364		8.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	691.00	730.20	+ 3.10	.
British #	1793.40	1897.40	- 0.80	2.06
Emging Mkts	169.60	180.60	- 1.30	0.82
Euro Grwth Inc	153.90	163.00	+ 0.20	.
Euro Small Co	77.94	82.98	- 0.30	
Japan	87.27	92.54	+ 0.60	.
Asia Pacific	336.80	358.70	+ 1.30	1.61
-do- Accum	366.40	390.30	+ 1.40	1.61
Inv Trust Acc	385.10	408.20	+ 0.10	0.89
Mngd Equity	272.30	288.10	+ 0.50	1.71
Mngd Cash	95.89	95.89	+ 0.01	6.65
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Asia Pacific	15.60	16.60†	+ 0.08	1.02
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	106.35	113.14†	- 0.46	6.65
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	120.79	128.50†	- 0.53	6.05
European	82.58	87.85	- 0.25	0.17
Japan	26.29	27.97	+ 0.38	0.01
Managed Assets	188.87	202	- 0.09	1.23
North American	67.79	72.12	+ 0.48	0.28
Smlr Co's Inc	47.02	50.02	- 0.08	1.31
Smlr Co's Acc	52.60	55.96	- 0.09	1.31
UK Growth Inc	92.78	98.70	- 0.28	1.28
UK Growth Acc	107.91	114.80	- 0.32	1.28
Extra Income #	64.37	68.84	- 0.21	3.48
Worldwide Grth	54.72	58.52	+ 0.09	0.18
For Sun Life see AXA Sun Life Fd Mngrs Ltd				
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 794				
American	458.53	485.22	+ 4.32	1.00
-do- Accum	505.05	534.44	+ 4.75	1.00
Brit Growth	178.44	188.82†	- 0.77	1.13
-do- Accum	226.84	240.04†	- 0.98	1.13
European	196.33	207.75	- 0.37	1.36
-do- Accum	209.70	221.90	- 0.40	1.36
Extra Income #	303.51	321.17	- 1.12	3.49
-do- Accum #	587.13	621.31	- 2.16	3.49
Smaller Cos	110.78	117.23†	+ 0.02	0.72
-do- Accum	128.18	135.64†	+ 0.01	0.72
General	516.58	546.65	- 1.31	1.45
-do- Accum	1128.91	1194.61	- 2.85	1.45
Premier Income	56.36	58.71†	- 0.17	5.30
-do- Accum	154.13	160.55†	- 0.47	5.30
Income #	549.66	581.65	- 0.76	3.20
-do- Accum #	1331.24	1408.72	- 1.86	3.20
Pacific	263.01	278.32	+ 0.39	0.47
-do- Accum	276.36	292.45	+ 0.41	0.47
International	832.45	880.90†	+ 2.14	0.17
-do- Accum	1101.14	1165.23†	+ 2.82	0.17
Nat Resources	140.72	148.91†	+ 4.20	0.35
Skcld Opps	187.61	198.53†	+ 0.89	1.27
-do- Accum	250.09	264.65†	+ 1.19	1.27
Environmental Inv	125.60	132.91	- 0.08	0.66
Selector	103.53	109.55†	- 0.06	1.28
-do- Accum	122.77	129.91†	- 0.07	1.28
High Income #	98.15	103.87	- 0.34	3.31
-do- Accum #	141.22	149.44	- 0.49	3.31
Intl Income	65.03	68.82†	+ 0.14	3.83
-do- Accum	91.52	96.85†	+ 0.20	3.83
Selector Income	86.70	91.75†	- 0.19	3.30
-do- Accum	115.59	122.32†	- 0.26	3.30
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0800 435810				
British	588.04	618.99	- 1.16	1.78
European	129.54	135.65	+ 0.08	1.22
TEMPLETON INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Templeton Funds (OEIC)				
Alpha Shares				
Growth Acc ‡	348.74		- 0.41	3.54
Growth Inc ‡	292.24		- 0.34	3.54
Balanced Acc ‡	287.91		- 0.50	4.88
Balanced Inc ‡	226.87		- 0.39	4.88
Value Acc ‡	215.82		- 0.02	2.78
Value Inc ‡	186.90		- 0.02	2.78
Beta Shares (250,000 minimum)				
Growth Acc ‡	1004.29		- 1.15	3.54
Growth Inc ‡	1004.29		- 1.15	3.54
Balanced Acc ‡	1007.58	..	- 1.73	4.88
Balanced Inc ‡	1007.58		- 1.73	4.88
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 829 0662				
Capital	130.50	138.80	+ 0.10	0.51
International	90.29	96.00	.	
THREADNEEDLE INVESTMENTS				
Client Serv. 0800 0683000 Inter Serv. 0800 6684000				
Threadneedle Investment Services				
Managed Funds				
Adv Mgd Gth Acc	55.83	58.45	- 0.02	0.89
Bal Mgd Gth Acc	55.48	58.09	- 0.10	2.63
Caut Mg Gth Acc	55.14	57.73	- 0.14	4.14
Managed Income	55.03	57.62	- 0.15	3.66
Threadneedle Investment Funds (OEIC)				
Retail Shares (Class 1)				
UK				
UK Corporate Bd ‡	53.48	.	† - 0.17	6.27
UK Equity Inc #	60.93	..	† - 0.20	3.35
UK Growth ‡	60.75	.	† - 0.19	1.26
UK Grth & Inc ‡	55.82	..	† - 0.19	1.49
UK Money Secs ‡	50.46		† + 0.01	7.12
UK Monthly Inc #	56.37	..	† - 0.22	3.36
UK Select Grth ‡	61.20		† - 0.06	1.18
UK Smaller Cos ‡	59.94	..	† - 0.05	1.22
International				
Amer Grth Acc ‡	56.50		† + 0.37	.
Amer Sel Grth ‡	58.69		† + 0.33	
Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡	60.23		† + 0.92	
Asia Growth ‡	33.98			0.72
Emg Mkt Bd Fd #	53.66		† + 0.29	7.12
European Growth ‡	68.71		† - 0.12	
Euro Sel Grth ‡	65.96		† - 0.06	
Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡	69.86		† + 0.24	
FE&Jap Grth Acc ‡	32.69		† + 0.07	0.09
Global Bond ‡	51.53		† + 0.14	6.33
Gth Sel Gth Acc ‡	63.34		† - 0.06	
Japan Grth Acc ‡	35.37		† + 0.28	..
Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡	53.32	..	† + 0.23	
Latin Amer Gth ‡	52.91		† - 0.21	
Institutional Shares (Class 2) (500,000 min)				
UK				
UK Equity Inc #	60.98		† - 0.20	3.35
UK Growth ‡	60.78	..	† - 0.19	1.75
UK Grth & Inc ‡	55.95		† - 0.19	1.98
UK Inst Grth ‡	60.60		† - 0.16	2.09
UK Oseas Engs ‡	58.65		† - 0.15	1.00
UK Select Grth ‡	61.28		† - 0.05	1.68
UK Sm Cos Grth ‡	59.97		† - 0.06	1.72
International				
Amer Grth Acc ‡	56.68	..	† + 0.38	
Amer Sel Grth ‡	58.89	..	† + 0.34	
Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡	60.34	..	† + 0.09	
Asia Growth Acc ‡	34.11			1.21
Euro Gwth Acc ‡	68.82		† - 0.12	0.37
Euro Sel Gth Acc ‡	66.18		† - 0.05	0.19
Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡	69.99		† + 0.24	0.18
FE & Jap Gth Acc ‡	32.77		† + 0.06	0.58
Global Bond ‡	51.65		† + 0.14	6.33
Japan Growth Acc ‡	35.49		† + 0.28	
Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡	53.42		† + 0.23	
Latin Amer Gth ‡	52.92		† - 0.11	0.39
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 336				
UK Eq Inc Acc #	478.72	509.28	- 0.73	3.34
UK Equity Gwth	515.77	548.69†	+ 0.86	1.31
European	289.47	307.95†	- 1.24	0.19
Nth American	129.84	138.13	+ 1.54	0.03
Far Eastern	58.03	61.73	+ 0.46	0.34
Money	76.89	76.89	+ 0.01	6.57
Fixed Interest #	93.45	99.17	- 0.26	7.11
Index Linked Gilt	85.21	90.37†	- 0.08	1.22
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 958595				
Income Trust	113.49	113.49†	.	5.80
Pens Growth	146.46	146.46		..
Pens Inc Protct	118.17	118.17		
UK Index Tracking @	186.41	186.41†		1.60
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7455				
Australasian Gold	14.38	15.14†	.	
Pacific Basin	23.39	24.82		
Global Bond (US$)	0.9754	1.0160		
Penny Share	45.61	48.01		
Japan Smlr Cos	27.22	28.65		
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Short Dtd Gilt	132.30	133.70†		
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.8258	0.8345	+ 0.0003	
Gilt Income	53.71	54.03†	- 0.09	6.10
Gilt Growth	80.96	82.37	- 0.26	.
Sterling Bond	53.28	54.17	- 0.20	5.80
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	74.27	78.81	- 0.31	1.52
UK Stockmarket	144.70	153.80	- 0.70	1.86
Corporate Bd Inc	51.71	51.82	- 0.03	5.14
Do Accum	57.46	57.58	- 0.03	5.14

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

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ould become a less volatile exposed to currency. The ist it will grow. Paints are a highly profitable business ains in that area depend on et share. In fragrances and is are more dynamic with nerating demand nphasise its conversion to a nach to business and it is ge of consumer business but e consumer does not in itself er rating. Paint is as much a lyester — big volumes make the hile. Where ICI's transforma- ssing is the potential to build real barriers to entry and high evidence of that is needed to moving.

versely affected by the long- expected reduction in Inch- cape's shareholding in Toy- ota (GB). Against this back- ground, it is difficult to see what attractions Inchcape now holds for investors who have so far given it a wide berth. Investors who want to buy into the motor distribu- tion sector will find better bargains elsewhere

TS BOTTLE

FTSE all-share index

WALL STREET

Equities halve earlier losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
645	505	Allied Domecq	623	- 5	3.9	15.9
412½	295	Bulmer (HP)	344	- 2½	5.4	19.7
42½	21½	Burn Stewart	21½	- 1	9.9	
764	432	Diageo▼	689½	- ½	2.6	30.1
950	775	Glenmorangie A	795		2.1	19.0
335	258	Highland Dist	322½	- 2½	3.5	14.2
213½	150	Matthew Clark	208½		12.5	6.5
57½	29½	Marston	44½	- 1	8.7	
2071½	1268½	SA Breweries	2000	+ 6½	1.7	

BANKS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1609½	1176½	ABN-AMRO	1546½	- 21½	2.0	22.6
1245	1010	Abbey Natl	1165	- 13	3.3	17.9
1035	585	Alliance & Leic†	835	- 15	2.1	16.8
834½	587½	Allied Irish	818½	- 7	2.2	23.0
458½	276½	Bank Ame 2	455½	- 7½	4.5	
5416½	3881½	Bank America	5225	+ 28½		
613	431	Bank Scotland	711	- 23	1.7	19.8
1996	1068	Barclays†	1778	- 17	2.6	18.2
1309	910½	Bk of Ireland	1265	- 33½	1.7	27.8
11029½	6790½	Citicorp	9453½	- 121½		
1653½	1565½	Commerzbk	1618½	- 3½	3.2	
543½	290½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	406½	- 9½	1.0	
5143½	3663½	Deutsche Bk	5143½	+ 12½	1.2	
1206½	1153½	Espirito Santo	1171½	- 6½	3.1	
531	345½	First Euro 1	336½	- 6½	1.2	65.9
2073	1294	HSBC†	1861	- 34	3.4	14.9
2002	997	HSBC HK$	1745	- 43	3.6	14.0
1030	750½	Halifax†	835	- 2	2.6	24.3
842½	642½	Irish Perm	835		1.9	24.2
1070	698	Lloyds TSB†	969½	- 31½	2.2	25.8
916½	770½	Nat Aust Bk	916½	+ 17½	4.1	
1232	751	Nat West†	1166	- 26	3.5	24.8
675	575	Northern Rock	628½	- 1½	2.1	23.5
1099	565	Ryl Bk Scot	933	- 20	2.9	18.5
1050	578	Stand Chart†	915	- 32	2.5	14.8
£164½	£164½	Wells Fargo	£164½		1.9	
439	335½	Westpac	432½	- 6	3.5	
400	308	Woolwich†	343½	- 13	3.5	17.6

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1180	673	Bass▼	1035	- 19	3.1	19.6
61½	50½	Bn los me Ab	59		4.0	17.6
152½	144½	Bertorelli Brw	152½		5.4	14.3
144½	116	City Centre Rest	142½	- ½		
1140	581	Compass Gp	1009	- 6	1.2	35.1
327½	286½	Eldridge P A	326½		2.3	16.5
373½	251½	Enterprise Inns	373½		2.5	20.6
473½	425	Fuller Sm A	472½		2.8	15.2
477½	400	Greenall Gp	460½	+ 1	4.5	11.5
760	676½	Greene King	694	1	3.0	14.2
285½	197½	Grosvenor Inns	285½		2.8	37.4
335	260	Groupe Chez Ge	332		1.3	22.9
246½	214½	Hardy Hanson	243½	+ 1	5.9	10.6
2175	1825	Holt J	1825	- 12½	4.1	10.2
75	62	Inn Business	73	- ½	3.2	11.0
305	279	Mansfield	295		3.1	12.2
320½	254½	Mitchell Timp	300		3.5	10.6
442½	420½	Morland	426½		3.9	10.7
392½	294½	Old Eng Pub	362½	- 7½	0.8	28.6
31½	21½	Paramount	26			
828½	678½	PizzaExpress	781½	- 1	0.8	35.3
377½	297½	Ransomes (H)	302½		2.1	28.1
379½	302½	Regent Inns	379½	+ 2	1.2	27.1
227	140½	SFI†	219½	- 3½	0.5	38.3
950	717	Scot & New	905	- 3	3.1	18.1
288½	227	Vaux Group	275		5.0	11.7
342	273½	Wetherspoon JD†	324	+ ½	0.8	34.8
1145	850	Whitbread	1069	- 8	2.8	18.3
530	469	Wolverhmptn D	516½	- 7	4.5	11.7
481½	381	Yates Bros	481	+ 8	0.8	34.6
667½	637½	Young 'A'	647½		3.0	26.8

BUILDING MATERIALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
68½	49½	Aggregate Indst	68½	+ ½	3.2	23.5
408	290	BPB	404	+ 29	3.0	18.5
106½	38½	Baggeridge Brk	91½		4.8	12.4
62½	44½	Blockleys	54½		1.0	60.8
407	271½	Blue Circle†	344	+ 11	4.2	13.0
133½	98½	Breedon PLC	116½		6.4	
187½	125½	Br Dredging	184½		4.5	
929	705	CRH	869	+ ½	1.2	21.6
62½	47½	Cakebread Rby	60½		8.1	4.9
145½	107½	Capel	145½		5.6	12.5
215½	158½	Caradon	195½	+ 5	5.4	13.1
116½	100½	Caradon pf	116½	+ 1	7.8	
130½	90½	Chelton Grp†	103½		5.2	7.6
219	217½	Dyson (J&J)	218½		3.3	13.0
120	107½	Dyson 'A'	107½		6.7	6.4
60½	43½	Ennstone	50			
197½	147	Epwin	166	...	7.7	8.8
115½	101½	Gibbs & Dandy†	114½		4.4	10.6
191	154	Graham Grpt	189½	- ½	4.0	18.9
282½	227½	Halstead (J)†	235		5.3	15.7
399	245	Hanson†	365	+ 8	4.1	12.6
265	179	Hepworth†	243½		4.6	
162½	120½	Hewetson	161½	+ 5	5.0	10.7
239½	202½	Heywd Wmst	235	+ 7½	7.3	8.9
66	43	Ibstock†	50½		5.4	
365	250	Jones(an	305		5.0	
107½	84½	Lilleshall†	91	+ 1½	8.9	9.0
118	82½	Marley†	111½	+ 3	5.6	9.6
145½	120	Marshalls	141½	+ 1½	4.8	
412½	328½	Meyer Inf	389	+ ½	3.9	14.9
77½	64½	Nocros	69		3.4	15.2
134	103½	Pilkington	128	+ 4½	4.5	16.4
190	156½	Polypipe†	177	+ 7	2.4	13.2
24	14½	Quilgold	16½			14.3
1053	740½	RMC Grp†	1045	+ 38	3.2	14.9
110½	78½	Ruberoid†	100	- 1	6.1	
139½	111½	Rugby Group†	121½	+ 3½	4.1	17.4
85	76½	Russell (A)	79½	- 2	4.8	
253	195½	SIG†	211	+ 13½	4.6	10.7
3½	1½	SWP	2			10.9
227½	220½	Sharpe & Fisher†	226½		3.5	14.0
25	14½	Spring Ram	20½	+ ½	0.8	
368½	144½	Streamline Hldgs†	262½	+ 17½	4.4	
130½	93	Tarmac†	118	+ ½	6.1	14.0
88	83	Titan	83		7.8	8.8
628½	457	Travis Perkins†	571½		2.4	17.6
95	60½	Tudor†	82½		4.5	10.6
324½	180½	Ultraframe	317½		1.4	33.6
570	410	Wolseley	437½	- 3½	3.3	14.0

CHEMICALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
188	134½	Albright & Wil	171	+ 6	4.2	16.9
204½	110½	Allied Colloids	204½		2.0	27.7
127½	106½	Amber Ind	122½		5.9	9.7
107½	91½	Amberley Gp	91½		2.3	15.4
100	72	Ardone Ex	90			14.7
3690½	2003½	BASF DM	2578½	- 87½	2.7	
1109	850	BOC	987	+ 25	3.4	17.0
422½	331½	BTP	410½	+ 19	3.6	19.7
3737½	2131½	Bayer DM50	2618½	- 46½	2.2	
126	94½	Brent Chems	94½	- 3	4.0	10.7
327½	210½	Br Vita†	327½	+ 15	3.3	16.5
187½	128½	Brunner Mond	176½		6.2	9.7
296	266½	Canning (W)	278		4.2	
229½	155	City Technology	195		2.4	37.7
474	234	Courtaulds	448½	- 1½	3.7	19.2
547½	351½	Croda	447½	+ 18	2.3	21.2
360	203½	Doeflex	360	+ 4½	4.2	10.9
152½	116	Elementis	143½	+ 4½		22.8
313½	260½	Ellis & Everard	272½	- 1	4.7	11.7
62½	53½	Euro Colour	58½		5.4	10.1
178½	138½	Gibbon	156		5.6	10.6
94½	64½	Hickson†	90	- 1	1.1	15.7
2425	2096½	Hoechst	2300	- 34½	2.2	
1200	738½	ICI	1084	- 1	3.0	43.0
290½	189	Inspec†	290½	+ 14½	2.9	13.1
189	141½	Kalon†	189	+ 1½	4.1	25.5
837	605	Laporte†	781	- 1½	3.3	15.8
72	47	Mensiem	71½	+ 3½	4.3	
35	30	Metroleci	31		4.2	7.8
380	320	Porvair	380	+ 1	2.0	21.2
231	181½	Scapa	188½	+ 2	3.9	10.2
22	16½	Suctiffe Speak	19½		7.5	8.4
1761½	1455½	Takeda Chem	1686½	+ 17½	0.4	31.0
248	221½	Victrex	229½		2.6	20.7
685	595	Wolstenholme Rt	612½	+ 10	5.5	
240	190	Yorks Grp	190		6.5	11.6
385½	282½	Yule Catto†	378½	+ 3	3.3	15.5

CONSTRUCTION

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
58½	19½	AAF Inds	47	...		
375	230	Abbey	375		2.2	28.2
427½	332½	Allen	422½		2.6	30.8
174	114	Amec†	173½	+ 4	3.6	17.1
725	400	Amey†	715		1.9	23.0
1055	722½	Andrews Sykes†	1056		1.8	
261	160	Ashtead	253½	+ 1	1.1	31.6
48½	28½	Avonside†	42		4.5	
35½	26½	Bardt	32½		4.6	15.5
73	48½	Barcom	70		2.7	17.3
329	224	Barratt Devst	323	+ 6½	3.6	14.2
232	161½	Beazer†	192½	+ 1½	4.4	10.9
401½	320½	Bellway	381	- 1½	3.1	12.6
25½	18½	Bellwinch	23½			8.1
95½	46½	Ben Bailey†	72½		3.8	8.4
768½	582½	Berkeley Gp	743½	+ 2	1.6	13.1
167½	146	Bird Bros	154		5.5	4.6
315	270	Boot (Henry)	315		3.4	
276½	192½	Bovis Homes	264	- 2	4.5	11.6
142½	105	Brandon Hire†	142½		2.9	17.4
41½	30½	Britannia Grp	40½	+ ½	4.4	15.2
155½	109	Bryant	137		4.8	12.1
127½	102½	CALA	125		3.9	7.7
4	3	Campbell & Arm	3½			
136½	83½	Clarke T†	126½		6.0	8.7
41½	20	Costain	40½			
129½	97½	Countryside	117		3.2	11.1
142	94½	Crest Nicholson	126½		3.7	10.8
118½	86½	Cussins	115		5.0	
210	160	Eve Group	207½		3.2	15.4
22½	19½	Galliford	21½	+ ½	6.0	12.6
1100	1015	Gleeson (MJ)	1025		2.3	15.0
175	118	Havelock Euro	121½	- 7½	5.0	
192	152	Hewden-Stuart	191½	+ ½	2.4	18.9
28	20	Howard Hldgs	21½		5.8	21.4
881	369½	Jarvis	628½	- 11½	1.3	32.2
251	181	Kalfert	239½	- ½	2.7	
232½	199½	Kiert	213½	+ 1	4.2	10.7
370½	309½	Laing (J)†	360½		3.6	19.1
125	117½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	121		6.6	
14½	8½	Lovell (YJ)	12½			
212½	155½	Maunders (J)†	209½		3.8	12.1
180	133½	McAlpine (A)	166½		5.8	
159	113½	McCarthy & S	153½		2.4	14.3
155	70	McInerney†	135		0.9	
225½	171½	Morgan Sindall	218½		3.0	13.3
397½	301	Morrison Cons	379		1.7	21.2
127	77½	Mowlem (J)†	112½		4.4	10.3
259½	182½	Persimmon†	246	+ 7½	5.1	11.6
109½	80½	Peterhouse	93½	- 2½	5.1	
120	112	Pochins	120		2.9	13.3
149½	116	Prowting	139½		3.8	12.9
198	142½	Redrow†	172½	+ 3½	2.7	12.7
322½	227½	Spanders†	310		1.5	17.9
94½	76½	Swan Hill†	77½		4.4	14.2
142½	132½	Tay Homes†	134		7.7	10.0
238	174	Taylor Woodrow†	225½	- ½	2.0	17.1
283½	190	Tilbury Douglas†	255	+ 1½	4.7	
29½	21½	Try Group†	28		2.9	9.5
78½	63½	Vitroplant	76		6.7	
135½	109½	Walsthomes	133½	+ 1	4.4	13.8
58	42½	Ward Hldgs	50	+ ½	6.5	7.1
271½	226½	Westbury▲	255½		3.4	12.9
15	12½	Wiggins	13½			19.4
191	139½	Wilson (C)	177	+ ½	4.0	
683½	511	Wilson Bowdn	683½	+ 5	2.3	13.8
140½	92½	Wimpey G†	124	+ ½	5.7	10.3

DISTRIBUTORS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
248½	187½	Acton Cp Spst	243½		1.4	20.3
355	257	Adam & Harvey	312½	+ 2½	3.0	4.7
21	9½	Alexanders	17½			
2	1	Acs Br Eng	1½			58.8

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
457	355	BCC Group	355		7.4	10.7
29½	12½	Bearing Power	17½	+ ½		
34½	34½	Bepod A	34½		3.3	5.5
765	550	Brammer†	697	- 3½	3.1	15.6
16	10½	Bridgend Gp	14½		1.7	
99½	79	Brit Transpt	99½	+ 5	6.4	
372½	345	Caffyns	362½		4.5	8.4
189½	170½	Car Group	181½	+ 1	3.2	17.2
155½	134½	Cavendale	155½		3.3	
54	31½	Coor (DC)	47	...	6.5	6.7
125	40½	Dig Mount	119		9.2	
125½	105½	Densitec (I)	114½		3.9	8.9
265	217½	Drohuma	256½		7.7	9.6
601	450	Electrocomponts	573	- 10	1.7	31.2
156	142½	Eyode Elec	149½		4.4	25.7
107½	84½	Eurocatch Mo	98½		7.5	7.7
305	250½	Evans Halshaw†	281		7.6	9.0
67½	39½	Fife Indmart	1/2	- 1	7.5	7.0
400½	357½	Finsiel Gp	379½	+ 7	2.7	15.2
27½	21½	Gamer	24½		5.1	10.6
82½	60½	Glenchewton	70	- ½	3.6	
135½	83½	Gowrings†	124½		3.5	11.8
16½	13	HR Owen†	15		6.7	9.8
402½	340	Headlam	382½		2.3	
160	135	Holders Techt	137½		6.1	
120	77½	ISA Intl	79½		5.3	6.0
250	138½	Inchcape†	217½	- 4½	5.4	26.2
80	57½	Jacks (Wm)	67½	- 1	6.7	
535	351½	Kwik Fit	507½	- 1½	1.6	32.8
598	422½	Lex Service†	598	+ 12½	3.7	15.2
123	100	Lookers†	116½		8.9	7.9
500	351	Menzies (John)	500		3.5	16.2
5½	4	Midmesses	4½		2.8	11.0
19½	16½	Matchtec	17½		3.5	
306	242	Nortom	265	- 4	3.9	11.5
281	207½	Normamont	218		1.8	13.9
342	296½	Pancon†	300	+ 1	3.6	
312½	247½	Pendragon†	293½		4.6	13.9
242½	167½	Perry Gp	216½	...	5.8	
443	272	Premier Farnell	375		4.4	14.5
162½	119½	Quicks Group†	161	+ 2½	6.0	
285	140	REA	140		2.9	
2½	1½	Reece	2			
37½	30½	Ring	32½			
12½	4½	Rinagon	6½	+ ½		
5½	3½	Ross Gp	4½			
112½	97½	Rubeno	106½		5.2	8.1
31	25½	SEP Ind	29½	+ ½	5.8	13.9
30	16½	Sanre	17½		8.6	
287½	211½	Sanderson Bramt	280½	- 1	2.5	10.2
54½	48	Sedgemoor	52½	- 1	4.0	13.2
273½	226½	Sytner	260		3.3	12.1
195½	167½	Time Products	175	+ 2½	8.9	7.2
216	132½	Trust Motor Grp	184	- 12½	1.7	3.2
432	390	UNIECO	406½	- 2½	1.8	21.7
124	88½	United Ocean Gp	109	- 2	1.3	
299½	244½	Vardy (Regt)	286½		3.4	13.5
800	656	WF Electr	750		2.6	23.1
157½	140	Wyko	152½	+ 8	2.7	14.4
150½	135	Young (H)	150½		3.8	10.7

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
330	297	Antofagasta	327½	+ 8½	2.2	28.6
320	229	Ascot Hldgs	320	+ 1	3.6	12.3
642	522½	Broken Hill	613	+ 8½	3.3	17.0
697½	466½	BATT	565		4.6	14.6
43½	33	Brierley Inv	35½	- ½	8.9	8.8
251	167	Cookson†	250½	+ 5	3.7	14.6
277½	217½	Cosalt	266½	- 3	5.6	8.8
585	410	DCC	526		1.9	19.6
383	304	Galliard†	322	+ 2	7.5	9.1
450½	288	Hutch Whamp	397½	+ 3½	3.2	
474½	383½	Imperial Tob	439½	+ 1½	6.1	10.8
335½	231½	Jardine Mat†	256	+ 4	3.8	
115	74½	Lonrho	103½	+ 2½	5.8	18.9
575	474½	Powell Duffryn	538½	+ 5	5.8	14.0
147	101	Staveley	127½		8.8	16.7
368½	259	Swire Pacific	322½	+ 5½	4.3	
338½	241½	TT Group	338½	+ 5½	3.3	12.7
384½	288	Tomkins	350½	+ 1½	3.4	14.9
239½	207½	Unitare	230		7.1	11.7
505	415	Wardle Storeys	502½	+ 2½	5.1	15.4
381½	301½	Wassall†	324	+ 2½	2.4	15.2
135½	116½	Whitecroft	117½	..	4.9	19.0

ELECTRICITY

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
589	310	Br Energy	539	+ 10	3.3	53.0
873½	600	Energy Group	867½	+ 10½	3.0	17.4
398	298½	National Grid▼	377½	+ 1	3.6	14.9
700	518½	National Power	565	+ 1	6.2	7.7
900	725	PowerGen	772	+ 2	4.3	11.7
597	502½	Hydro-Elect	585½	+ 2	3.9	13.4
589	475	Scottish Power	558½	- 1½	4.3	13.9
580	467	Southern Elec	550		5.0	14.7
576	522	Viridian	575½	+ 2	4.7	40.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
890	715	ARM Holdings	835	+ 2½	...	
359½	305	Acal	307½	...	4.1	10.0
1127½	890	Admiral†	1115	...	0.9	
38½	27½	Amstrad	36	- 1½	1.7	
34	26½	Arden	28½	+ ½	5.3	7.5
129½	106½	Astect	113½		1.7	12.1
70½	43½	Astad	50	- 1½		
173½	127½	BICC	156	- 3½	6.6	
77½	51½	Beales Hunter	77½	+ 4	16.5	7.5
345	260	Bitck	345		5.1	11.8
499½	345½	Bowthorpe†	498½	+ 17	2.8	19.0
17	12	Bulgin A	14½		6.5	17.6
205½	150½	CML Micro	190	...	4.0	22.7
27½	10	Channel Hldgs	14½	+ 2	8.9	4.5
45½	38½	Chloride	44½		1.9	10.7
109½	64½	Clayothe	106½	- 1	4.2	11.8
812½	722½	Crochley	812½		2.0	21.8
317½	213½	Dalet	294½	+ ½	5.4	11.5
451	392	Domino	434		3.5	15.2
77½	51	Dowding Mills†	61		6.5	11.5
290	240	Druck	280		0.8	30.2
5665½	4118½	Electrolux 'B'	5448½	- 218½	1.8	
24½	17	Emess	22½		3.4	15.8
3284½	2128½	Ericsson 'B'	3162½	- 121½	0.9	
388	311	EuroTherm	344	+ 20	3.6	15.1
590	463	Farey Group	562½	- 1	2.1	15.9
489½	429	Filtronic	489½	+ 11	0.4	33.8
17½	7½	Forward Tech	15	- ½		
551	338	GEC	487	+ 19	3.4	22.9
48½	35½	Ind Control	42½		1.5	
22	15	Inbisk	16½		7.4	
73	54½	LPA Ind	62		4.5	22.9
425	425	Mitel	425			
177½	117½	Newmark Tech	139½	- 7½	1.1	18.2
328	255	Oxford Inst	307½	+ 11	3.1	10.8
111	23½	Pace Micro	78½	- 5½	3.2	
5512½	3450	Philips Lmp nv	5443½	- 68½	0.9	
88½	38½	Plasmon	70½	- 1½	1.8	
345	272½	Pressac†	286½		1.9	20.9
60½	29	Prestwick	36		3.7	10.5
482½	279½	Psion†	281		1.1	27.3
356	243½	Racal Elect	356	+ 15½	2.1	87.1
80½	51½	Radamec	59½		6.7	
425	335	Renishaw	422½		2.7	24.7
1½	1½	Rodime	1½			
264	191½	Roxboro†	257½	+ 1½	3.5	
281	202½	SDX Bus Sys	277½	+ 2	1.1	33.2
377½	244	Servomex†	314	+ 3	3.8	15.4
50½	36½	Silverthorne	45½	- ½	4.0	
4993½	4128½	TDK†	4796½	+ 78½	0.6	
72½	59	TGI	63½		7.0	6.6
107½	88½	TLG	98½	+ 5	5.2	11.6
62	7	Tadpole Tech	25½	- 2		
55½	38½	Telemetrix†	47		4.3	11.3
365	230	Telspec	312½			38.3
150½	122½	Thorpe PWt	143		4.0	7.8
157½	70½	Total Systems	117½	- 2	1.5	25.4
125	100	Tunstall	120½	- 1	5.4	16.9
18	7	Ultima Networks	10	- ½	10.9	
111	66½	Verity	94½	+ 3	0.1	
152½	84½	Vero†	152½	+ 33	4.8	13.7
40½	30	Vigilan Technology†	30½		1.6	
525	460	Volex	522½	..	5.1	14.3

ENGINEERING

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
280	232½	ADM	232½	- 2½	4.0	11.0
44	28½	ASW	33½			
255	145	Alumasc	177½		6.0	8.1
161	129½	Alvis	154½	+ 2	2.8	19.7
176½	159½	Ash & Lacy†	174½	- 1½	5.5	8.3
125	70	Ayrshire Metal	70		9.8	3.9
486	345½	BBA†	486	+ 24	1.6	19.9
212½	150	BTR†	202	+ 1½	4.8	13.6
87½	68½	BWB	85½		4.8	9.4
85½	61	Babcock	68		2.3	
8½	6½	Bailey (CH)	8½		3.7	
99	77	Barnes (Charles)†	91½	- 2½	4.4	13.0
27½	11	Beauford	11½		9.1	
44½	27	Benson Group	44½		4.2	42.1
230½	181½	Bensford	211½	- 2	3.3	12.2
97½	84	Berald Cv Un Ln	93½	-	5.4	
1180	867½	Boxyclae	1120	+ 60	1.1	25.5
44½	35½	Booth Inds	36½	...		
20½	15½	Bosway	18½		6.2	8.3
141	117½	Bridport†	127½		4.7	14.3
2090	1525	Br Aerospace†	1962	- 18	1.2	21.3
162½	122½	Br Steel	159½	+ 7½	7.8	14.6
156½	136½	Brooke Ind	143½		4.4	7.9
16½	11	Brunel	11½		5.4	5.3
102½	92½	Bullough	93½		7.8	9.7
36	29	Carbo	29½	+ ½	5.1	
217½	162	Carclo Eng	163		8.2	9.7
225	183½	Castings	197½		3.3	11.4
215	190	Chamberlin Hill	215		4.7	9.7
750	570	Charter†	678	+ 9½	4.6	22.1
155½	110½	Chemring	151½	- 2	4.5	
275	235	Clyde Blowers	251		3.5	54.4
1110	732½	Cobham	1101½	+ 50	1.5	28.6
430	400	Cohen (A)	410			
119½	107½	Concentric	107½	- 2	8.5	22.3
229½	184½	David Brown	207	+ 7½	5.2	12.3
350	282½	ERS	318½		5.3	10.9
26½	16	Elsco	26	+ 1½		10.6
112½	72½	Elliott (B)	107½		3.7	14.3
155½	124½	Expamet†	143½	- 1½	3.4	13.8
208	147½	FKI	208	+ 7½	3.2	18.9
195½	167½	Fenner	182½	+ 2½	2.9	14.5
2	1½	Ferrum	1½			
40	29	Firth Hldgs	32½	+ ½	1.0	24.4
154½	126½	Fitch Rivson	143½		2.4	17.5
45½	27½	Flare	29½		4.2	2.6
104	91½	GEI Int	97½	- ½	5.8	9.9
196½	148½	Gason Eng	181½		5.7	
331½	216½	Glynwed†	323½	+ 6½	5.1	13.0
142½	92½	Haden MacLn	142½	+ 2½	2.8	14.5
230	185	Hadleigh	191		4.6	9.0
240	160	Hall Eng	236	..	4.5	9.3
126½	99½	Halma	121	+ 5	2.6	18.4
73½	64½	Hampson Ind	67½		4.6	13.8
57½	32½	Hay (Norman)	57½	+ 6½	2.2	
54½	40½	Headway†	43½		4.6	5.8
70½	42½	Hill & Smith	57½	- 1½	9.1	14.5
104½	65½	How Gp	102½	+ 9	3.4	
243½	210½	Hunting†	241½		4.1	12.9
486½	378	IMI	486½	+ 23½	2.9	15.9
624½	457½	Johnson Matth	611	+ 1	2.6	14.8
28½	22½	Jones Stroud	23		8.2	9.5
420	385	Kelsey Ind	385		9.1	8.6
392	299½	Linear	391		3.5	12.4
32½	23½	Locker (T)	24	+ ½	5.2	8.8
22½	16½	MS Ind	19½	- 1	3.8	
460	403½	Mang Bronze	427½		2.9	17.7
498½	377½	McKechnie	492	+ 1	4.5	12.7
167½	155½	McLeod Russel	157		5.6	11.4
211	154½	Meggitt	195½	+ 6½	3.0	21.0
99	82½	Metalrax	87	- ½	5.5	
14½	11½	MetalTech	14			
178½	142½	Metsec	170½	+ ½	3.7	
357½	237½	Molins†	255	+ 2½	7.4	
472½	392½	Morgan Cble†	467½	+ 23½	4.1	14.9
55½	53	Neepsend	54		4.6	11.7
57½	49½	Polymedron	49½		10.8	6.6
608½	180	Powerscreen	180	- 12	7.3	4.7
209½	155½	Quadramatic	156	+ ½	8.0	8.0
50	20½	Quadrant Grp	39½	+ 7		
60	50	Radiant Metal	55			
261½	226½	Renold	228		3.8	9.2
85	73	Richardson West	79	+ ½	8.7	6.7
301½	188	Rolls-Royce	275½	+ 4½	2.7	20.6
365	359	Rotork†	358½		3.2	
220	140	Rubicon	185		4.2	13.2
1425	1153½	SKF 'B'	1359½	- 65½	3.0	
230	139½	Senior Eng	229	+ 4	1.9	22.2
612½	461½	Sertio-Rve	549	+ 4	2.3	
1440	975	Siebe	1430	+ 71	1.1	25.6
132½	114½	Six Hundred	120½		5.2	8.5
950½	702	Smiths Ind†	886½	+ 76½	2.6	19.9
18½	11	Solvera	11½		2.6	
637½	542½	Spirax-Sarco†	637½	+ 41½	2.9	16.6
326½	262½	Sterling Ind	310½		4.1	11.3

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
600	424	BT	579	+ 29½	2.7	18.1
106½	89½	Tinsley (E)	98½	+ 1	7.9	9.1
82½	64½	Transtec	77½		4.5	
277½	270	Triplex Lloyd	277½		3.2	18.8
417	347½	Ultra Electr	379		2.4	18.6
68	55½	Utd Inds	62½	+ 2	5.3	8.8
242½	198	Vickers†	230	+ ½	3.8	14.6
10½	7½	Villers Grp	10			
703	584	Vosc	661		2.6	12.4
807½	740	Vosper Thorny	775		4.3	11.9
320	280	Wagon Ind	306½	- 1	4.9	13.6
314½	222½	Weir†	279	- 5½	4.0	13.0
172½	137½	Wellington Hldgs	165½		6.3	
81½	55	Westcott	68½	- 1½	2.9	15.2
835	750	Whatman	772½	- 32½	2.5	20.3
59½	42½	Widney	53½	+ 1	8.2	16.8

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
148½	123	Adwest	132	- 1½	5.9	10.3
160	150	Airflow Steam	152½		6.6	11.0
685	617	Avon Rubber	670	- 5	3.4	15.0
345	305	Beeconn	305		3.0	
182	114½	Brtax	162	+ 1	2.5	17.9
312½	251½	Delmac	293½	+ 2½	4.2	
376½	277½	First Tech	371½	+ 2	1.3	26.0
1725	1052½	GKN†	1670	- 15	1.8	21.3
4487½	3418½	General Mtr	4162½	- 46½	2.9	
535	414½	Hontrct	529	+ 1½	3.9	13.4
2326½	1891½	Honda Motor	2138	+ 4	0.4	
480	384½	Lucd	424		3.4	11.2
269	194	LucasVarity	264	+ 3	2.1	15.8
228	158½	Mayflower†	228	+ 3½	1.5	22.3
127½	95½	Syltone	110		7.4	9.1
261	252½	T & N	259		4.4	15.0
31½	27½	Tood	27½	- 1½		
42½	36½	Wilmow	40½	+ ½	2.6	10.9

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
670	530	AB Food	562		2.2	17.4
270	215	Acatos & Hutch	231		5.7	24.4
37	24½	Albert Fisher	38	- ½	15.8	10.9
285	195	Banks (S C)	195½		7.3	7.1
500	417	Barr (AG)	497½		4.3	
44½	34	Bensons Crsp	36		5.5	7.7
360	209	Booker†	271	+ 2	11.1	12.0
845	571½	Brake Bros	843½		1.7	
103½	85	CPL Aromas	94		6.4	27.1
885	600	Cadbury-Schwt	845	- 8	2.1	22.7
282	147½	Cans Milling	156	...	8.2	5.3
114½	70½	Claughan†	114½	...	4.0	28.2
264½	234½	Cranneck	264½	..	4.9	12.6
366½	253	Dairy Crest Group	362		3.5	15.3
379	273½	Dalgety†	365	+ 4	3.3	
67	37½	Daniels St	52½		1.2	17.2
538	375	Devro†	539	+ 3	2.2	22.6
129½	99	Finlay (James)	120	- ½	3.5	
530	404	Geest	515	+ ½	2.5	
15½	8½	Global	14½	- ½	6.1	18.3
380	285	Greencore	379	+ 1½	2.3	20.8
211½	164½	Hazlewood Fds	198		4.5	14.2
185	142	Hillsdown	174½		7.1	10.4
410	392	Linton Park	384		5.1	8.5
100	86	Matthews (B)†	89	+ ½	5.4	15.2
227½	205½	Nichols (V)†	214½	- 1½	4.6	11.3
240	182	Nitro Foods	225		5.4	12.9
20	15	Normans Fs	15½	+ ½	1.6	8.1
112½	89½	Paramount Foods†	103½	..	6.3	
57	28½	Pacman's	38			39.4
147½	103½	Perkins Food	131½		3.6	
83½	68½	Pant & Gen	78½	- 1½	2.5	
82	56	Seely Farm†	63		6.0	
34½	21	Sims Food	21	- 2½		2.2
583	450	Tate & Lyle	518	- 7½	3.5	14.0
151	111½	Treat	130	+ 2	8.2	13.2
738½	581½	Uniqate	732	+ 6	3.6	17.4
655	346½	Unilever†	621½	+ 2	1.7	30.8
4737½	3500	Unilever (NV)	4416½	- 28½	1.5	12.5
288	216½	Utd Biscuits†	240½	- 8½	5.5	17.1
82½	44½	WT Foods	57½	..	3.3	22.1

HEALTHCARE

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
442½	318½	Alloca UniChem	408½	+ 7	3.8	17.8
185	135	Assoc Nursg	165		2.9	28.0
890	693	Baspak	890		1.8	25.5
525	115	Biocompat Intl	137½	- 13½	...	
164½	144	Care UK	163½	..	1.0	19.0
88½	28½	Celsis	32½			
520	389½	Community Ht	517	- 3	2.9	18.8
33	28½	CreataCare†	31½		3.9	15.0
18	7½	Endromed	15			
164½	122½	Feracelis Group	142½	...	3.0	12.3
169½	144½	Gyrus	159½			
173½	141	Huntigh Tec	165½	+ 10½	2.4	
139½	97½	Innovative Tech	110½	+ 7	...	
95	68	Intercare Grt	81½		5.3	45.1
560	495	Isoboot	530		1.5	19.0
201	150	Lon Intl	199		1.7	26.7
257½	190½	Nestor Hlth†	254½		1.9	27.3
2750	2050	Nycomed Amsht	2178	- 9	1.1	24.2
5½	5½	Premier Health#	5½			
11	8½	Replas	9			
384½	255½	Scholl†	384	+ 6	2.8	21.1
629½	501½	Seton Health	627½	+ 6	1.8	24.5
580	507½	Shield Diag	575	+ 15	...	
230	190	Sinclair Mont	201½		0.1	
194	150	Smith & Neph	173½	- 1½	3.7	15.6
2½	2	Tomeste	2½	-	4.8	15.5
412½	362½	West Hlthcare	401		2.1	18.2

HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
152½	132½	Airsprung	133½		6.0	8.6
196	165½	Albrl	188½	...	4.1	10.7
85	55	Albion	65		6.3	8.8
140½	120½	Alexandra W	135½	+ ½	6.0	12.6
187½	124	Allied Textile	152½	- ½	6.9	10.0
18½	13½	Armour†	16½		5.7	40.4
205	157	BLP Group†	178		5.5	6.1
285½	265	Baird (Wm)	264	+ ½	5.0	13.3
53½	50	Bibson Barsea	52½		3.6	27.2
149½	87½	Black Arrow	118½		4.5	9.8
421½	391½	Black (Peter)†	401	- ½	2.0	16.7
94½	78	British Mohair†	82½		8.1	7.1
88½	47½	Coronool Garments	55		11.4	
100	81½	Coats Viyella	95½		5.0	33.9
182½	146	Cornwell Pfrs 5pt	158½	- 1	2.8	12.5
368	313	Courtaulds Text†	320	- 2½	6.0	12.2
33½	25½	Creighton	27½	...		
13½	6½	Dallyan	6½	...	13.3	
68½	48	Dawson†	56		8.0	8.1
157½	127½	Derby Group	127½		4.5	9.4
267½	225½	Dewhurst	232	+ 5½	2.9	14.1
25½	17	Dixle Hert	25½	+ 2	7.8	
27	15½	Drummond Group	15½	- ½	4.0	4.2
122½	105½	Eclipse Blindst	105½	...	4.3	
42	29	Elbiel	31	...	4.8	6.5
131½	90	Fil Group	90		5.6	6.9
34	24	Faupel Trading	28		10.5	5.3
10½	4	Foster (J)	4½			
44½	37½	French	37½		5.2	
502½	377½	Gaskell	462½	+ 2½	2.3	8.9
78½	60	Haggas (J)†	62½		9.0	12.2
11½	8½	Hardstone Group	10½		5.6	28.6
257½	216½	Hicking Pentecost	216½	- 1	4.4	12.2
4	2½	Hollas Group	3½			
18½	10½	Honeysuckle Grp#	14			
84	62½	Horacts Steel	81			
367½	260	IMP Intl	367½	...	1.7	16.4
25½	12½	Jacques Vert	12½			
52½	37½	Jerome Grp	45		9.9	
320	290	Jones Stroud	280		4.8	12.3
65½	47½	Jourdan (T)†	65½	+ 5	2.9	
134	88	Kenwood App	92½	...		
245	200	Lambert Howarth†	212½		5.0	9.4
152	135	Lamont Hldgs	137		12.5	9.0
123	90	Leeds Group	90		8.7	5.7
17	8½	Leslie Wise†	16½		11.4	
16	12½	Lionheart†	15½		3.3	12.3
80	66	Lytac (S)	84½	+ 1	3.7	8.5
210	173	McBride†	199	- 1½	4.5	14.5
122½	103½	Maybom†	118½		8.4	8.4
575	550	Osborne & Little	570		4.6	11.3
4½	2½	PEX Group▲	4	- ½	2.8	
126	52½	Parkland Group	53½	- ½	9.8	
475	435	Paterson Zoch	463½		4.7	10.3
425	375	Paterson Zch 'A'†	418		5.2	9.3
129	109½	Portland Group	125	+ ½	3.7	17.5
210	186	Pifcot	205		4.0	10.4
203	185	Price 'A' Vigt	192		4.2	9.7
60½	45	Pittards†	45		9.7	10.0
43½	38	Readicut Intl	41½		7.8	12.2
1300	852	Reckitt Colmt	1278	+ 15	1.9	22.8
585	480½	Relyon†	578		3.1	18.6
36	25½	Richards	25½		9.4	
214½	174½	Royal Doulton†	204½	+ 4½	6.1	
32	20½	SEET	28½			
45½	29½	Sherwood Group†	40½		11.1	10.8
110½	89½	Shiloh	102½		4.9	7.2
285	265	Slanlpight	267½		4.8	11.6
70½	52½	Sinfort	68	...	10.2	8.6
41½	32½	Stirling Group	37½		7.8	8.8
16½	7	Stoddard	9	+ ½	10.4	19.7
252½	191½	Stores	196½		3.8	12.9
278½	211½	Swallowfield†	262½		3.8	12.5
206½	156	Tomkinsons	189½		7.6	10.2
9½	2½	UK Safety	3			
142	134	Ulster (F)	136½		10.1	7.0
80	68	Victoria	68	- 2	4.8	10.8
150	117½	Vymura†	145		4.7	10.2
62½	40	Walker Greenbk	59½		8.1	
102½	80	Wetsed Wdpdt	102		1.6	28.7
67½	60½	Wensum	61½		10.2	5.4
195	195	Wood (Arthur)†	195		4.5	12.9
140	89½	Yorklyde	92½		6.9	

INSURANCE

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4100	3250	Am Gen	4100	+ 87½	2.2	...
133	106	Angerstein	132	...	8.9	10.2
64½	53½	Bradstock	61½		11.8	8.2
1364	1102½	Britannic†	1273½	- 11½	3.3	8.6
164	129	CLM Insce	164		8.4	12.9
275½	262½	Charles Taylor†	271½	+ 1½	2.1	30.4
1300	707	Cmm Balent	1120	- 40	2.9	27.6
370½	237	Cox Insce	370½	+ 3	1.0	27.4
550	495	Dom & Genl	545		2.3	30.0
158	112	Euclidian	147	- 4½	12.8	18.2
449½	303	FBD IE	446	+ 1	2.1	
162	145½	Finsbury Under#	161½		10.1	12.9
1625	887	Gen Accident	1427	- 36	3.3	9.6
495	325	GRE†	418	- 8	2.8	8.4
719½	441½	Hiberman IE	719½	+ 5½	1.4	14.0
208	143	Hiscox	184	- 1	2.1	31.3
155	143	Hiscox Select	155		2.3	14.3
1800	1145	Independent	1665	- 5	1.2	16.5
602½	342½	Irish Life†	586½	- 9½	2.3	
187	151½	Jardine Lyd Thf	175½		7.1	11.8
142½	107	Kilo Capital	138		2.5	46.5
316½	100½	Lambert Fen	108½		9.7	7.7
785	532	Legal & Genl	686	+ 1	2.3	17.4
2278½	1421½	Liberty Life†	2221½	- 3½	1.7	30.8
184½	145	Lmd	173½	+ ½	4.5	10.5
627½	489½	Londn & Manf	540½		5.7	22.2
5995½	4321½	Marsh McLn	5675	- 21½	2.2	
113	100	Masiboad	110		4.5	
87	70	New London Cap	80½	...	9.3	11.8
558	385	Norwich Union†	462½	- 7½	3.1	10.3
131½	102½	Ockham	123½		4.7	
110½	81½	Orel	97½		7.4	57.6
135	117	Pardum Trust	133		3.7	27.1
1000	720	Prudential†	812	- 30	2.4	19.2
20½	17½	PWS	20		6.7	4.4

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
825	590	Royal & Sun All†	717	- 9½	3.2	18.1
302½	167½	St James Placet	290	+ 2½	0.6	34.1
169½	132	Sedgwick†	153½	- 3½	4.6	12.1
29	22½	Steel Burrill	26	+ 1½	7.2	
645	434½	Sun Life & Pt	591	- 16	2.5	34.2
136	110	Syndicate Cap	133		8.7	10.4
625	521½	Utd Assurance	592½	- 8½	4.5	13.6
169½	147½	Wellington	158½		3.6	10.9
173½	128½	Willis Corroon	168½		5.0	13.4
16	11½	Windsor	14½		5.2	

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
610	490	3i	592	- 3	2.0	34.5
65	51½	Aberdeen Emg Ec	63½			
122½	96½	Aberdeen High Inc	121	+ ½	7.4	17.7
133	84	Aberdn New Dawn	114		1.8	46.2
237	206½	Aberforth Smlr	231½		3.8	25.8
139½	116	Aberforth Sm Wts	138½			
3022½	2466	Alliance†	2962½	+ 4	2.5	45.4
700½	584	Anglo & O'seas†	690½	+ 1	1.9	62.1
74½	67½	Aust Opps	68½	+ ½	0.5	
67	50½	Baillie Gifford Sht	57½	+ ½		
289½	239½	Bankers	280	- 1½	2.4	46.4
112½	85½	Baring Em Eu	112½	+ 2½		
607½	468½	Baring Tribne	602½	+ 1	1.7	66.6
140½	114½	Br Assets	137½	+ ½	4.4	25.6
122	106	Br Empire Sec	118½	- ½	1.1	64.3
61½	52½	Brazilian	60½	+ ½		
375½	313	Brunner	375	+ ½	2.2	58.8
110	110	BZW Conv#	110		8.9	
90½	74½	Candover Devt	82	- 1	1.4	
987½	737½	Candover†	856½	+ 20½	2.9	35.2
68½	58½	Central Euro Gwth	63½			
483½	364	Chart European	479	+ 1½	1.6	
190	168	City Merch Hh	189		6.1	15.5
281	230	City Of Lon†	272½	- ½	3.0	37.6
360½	234	Conti Asset	366	+ 1	0.7	
77½	74½	Datna Inv Inc	75½		13.7	9.7
635	530	Derby Cap	617½	- 5	1.0	
139½	127½	Derby Inc	130		18.8	4.8
220½	174½	Dunedin Inc Gt	213½	- ½	3.5	33.8
410½	335½	Dunedin Smir	409½	- ½	3.1	34.8
218½	170	Dunedin Wwde	218		1.2	
292½	245	EDC#	276½		0.2	
60½	43	Edin Dragon	52½			
29½	24½	Edinburgh Incl	28½			
519	413½	Edinbrgh IT	489		2.7	39.7
105	81½	Edin Japan	89½			
519½	424½	Edin US Trt	514½	+ ½	0.9	
618	527	Electra Inv	615½	- ½	2.0	43.4
187	157	Eng & Scot	181½	- ½	2.4	39.3
29½	25½	Ent Cap	27			
520	374	European Asset†	518½	- 1	0.9	
70½	47½	Fidelity Asian Val	63½			
358	277½	Fidelity Euro Val†	354	- 3½	0.2	
32½	25	Fidelity Jap Val	30½	+ ½		
158	135½	Fidelity Spec Val	153	+ 1	1.1	76.4
250½	217½	Finsbury 'A'	247½		2.0	67.4
223	173	Finsbury Gwth	205½	+ ½	2.1	57.6
155½	130	Fleming Chile	141½	+ ½	1.7	73.8
18½	2½	Five Arr Wts	3½			
642½	513½	Fleming Amer	633	- 1	0.4	
64	44½	Fleming Asian	55½	- ½		
12½	6½	Fleming Asian Wts	9½	...		
64½	44½	Fleming Chinese	54½	- ½		
27½	14	Fleming Ch Wts	18½			
507½	401½	Fleming Claver	483	- 1½	1.8	66.8
652½	471	Fleming Cond	643	- 5½	0.8	
134	100½	Fleming Em Mkts	133½	- ½	0.4	
352	271	Fleming Enip	336½	+ 1	2.8	50.1
411	307	Flem Gbl Gth Ord	403½	- 2	0.9	
162½	152	Flem Gbl Gth Pd	162½		10.0	
132½	103	Fleming Inc Cap	131		5.5	24.9
111½	105½	Fleming Ing Inc	109		11.4	10.1
350½	248½	Fleming Ing Cap	342½	...		
50½	38½	Fleming Indian	50			
12½	8½	Fleming In Wts	11½	+ ½		
187½	131	Fleming Japan	140½	+ 2½		
439	364½	Fleming Mercl	425	- 1½	2.8	
84½	70½	Fleming Nal Rest	84½	+ ½	0.3	
413½	350½	Fleming Oseas	410	+ 5	1.4	
184	148½	Fleming Smlr Co	183½		3.1	53.3
491½	371½	Fleming US Discyt	480	- ½	0.3	
209½	168	Foreign & Colt	196½	- ½	1.4	68.8
123½	97	F&C Inc Gwth	117½	+ ½	3.8	32.7
107½	93½	F&C Emg Mkts	100½	+ ½		
268½	185	F&C Enterprise†	262½	+ ½	1.9	56.7
499½	361½	F&C Eurotst	492½	- 4½	0.3	
222½	150½	F&C Geman	223	+ 15½	0.3	
131	99½	F&C Pacific	112½	- ½	2.1	
178½	144½	F&C PEP	178		3.2	38.9
206½	177	F&C Smaller	206½	+ ½	1.6	60.5
179	144½	F&C US Smlr	176	+ 2½		
64½	60½	Framlin Inc	64½		18.0	
158	109½	Framlin Cap	157½	+ 3½	...	
276	133½	Framl Dual Cp	271	...		

LOFTS IN CYBERSPACE

MANHATTAN LOFT CORPORATION WEBSITE

http://www.manloft.co.uk

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
59	38½	Falcrum Cap	59			
22½	17	Falcrum Inc	17½	- ½	64.6	1.9
192½	188	Fulcrum Zero	192½	+ ½		
325	270½	Gartmore Bril	323½		3.5	
333½	242½	Gartmore Euro	331	- 1½	0.5	
155	110	Gartmore Sbrd	154½		7.6	16.0
440½	345½	G'more Smlr Cost	439½		1.7	64.9
78½	52½	Geared Inc Ord	78½	+ 1½	7.8	10.1
58½	51½	Geared Inc Inc	57½	...	10.7	7.4
103	59½	Gov Asn Sm Cost	94½	+ ½	0.7	
92	70½	Gov Emg Mkts	92	+ 2	0.5	
213½	151½	Govett Amo Smir	210½	+ 17		
97½	61½	Govett High Inc	95½	- ½	7.3	16.4
108½	80½	Govett Oriental	98½	+ ½	0.9	
465	379½	Govett Strategic	455½	+ 3	2.1	43.1
31½	19½	Eastern House	27½		1.1	1.6
146½	119	GT Inc Growth	145		2.8	49.8
180½	136½	GT Japan	148½	- ½	0.3	
159½	114½	Gain Fr Ex Inc	155½	..	8.7	
76	61	Henderson Am Cp	72½	..		
120½	116½	Henderson Am In	118		8.4	
43½	29	Henderson Am Wt	42½			
350½	281½	Hend Elec Gen	339	+ ½	1.4	78.8
132½	101	Hend Far East	106	+ ½	8.0	15.1
577½	452	Hend Gmbh	570		1.7	71.5
172	151½	Hend High Inct	163		5.1	22.2
42½	30½	Hend Jap Smlr	36½	+ ½		
278	219	Hend Smir	277½		1.8	66.8
620½	495	Hend Strata	606½		0.1	
69½	51	Hend TR Pac	57½	- ½	0.5	
117½	88½	Hend Tech	114½	+ 1½		
187	135½	Herald†	187	+ 4	0.6	
124½	105½	High Income T	122	+ 1	7.0	15.3
162	140	H Invest Smir	161½		2.3	57.2
176½	139½	I&S UK Smlr	176½		2.1	70.6
213½	180	Inv Cap	205		3.5	30.8
97	88½	Int Biotech	88½	+ ½	...	
20	7½	Int Biotec Wts	8½	+ ½		
82	70	Int Biotec C	82	+ 1		
58½	38	INVESCO Asia	51½	- ½	1.6	62.9
210½	175½	INVESCO Eng Int	287½		0.8	
36½	25½	INVESCO Jap Dis	29	+ ½		
49½	30	INVESCO Korea	36½	- ½		
33½	23½	INVESCO Tokyo	38½	+ ½		
107½	83½	JF Fledg Jap	91	- ½		
204½	135	J Fry Euro T	204		3.4	
112	65½	J Fry Utilt	112½	+ 2½	6.2	13.5
88½	79½	J Fry Utl Inc	87	+ ½	8.0	63.1

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	121½	Jupiter Ex Inc	149½		6.6	19.0
43½	19½	Jupiter Ex Incall	43	+ 1		
105	91	Jupiter Gbl Cap	105		9.6	12.9
50	44	Jupiter Grn Fnd	50	+ ½		
152½	135½	Jupiter Int Grt	152	+ 1	3.4	
104	79½	Kiest E Bke	103	+ ½		
177½	164½	Kiest Ead	176			
156	118	Kiest H Inc	154½	- ½	9.4	15.7
223½	170½	Kiest Smlr	213½	- 1½	1.5	
201½	83	Korea—Euro	178½	+ 1½	0.7	
132	113	Latin American	127½	+ 1		
1270½	1077½	Law Debenture	1240		2.9	34.5
120	113½	Life Oil Cap	114			
153½	129½	Lloyds Smi Cap	153			
22	17½	Lloyds Sm Dat	18½	- ½	29.4	4.3
170	143	Lloyds Sm Fngt	169		3.2	
211½	173½	Lon St Lawrence†	211½	+ ½	3.8	32.8
414½	341½	Lowland	405	- 1	3.6	34.7
812½	797½	M&G 2nd Dual Cp#	800			
51½	50	M&G 3rd Dual Wa#	50			1.6
99½	73½	M&G Inc Geard	93	+ ½	7.6	17.7
75½	54	M&G Inc Inc 1st Cp	75	+ ½		
26½	22½	M&G Inc Inc 1st Inc	24			
182½	150½	M&G Inc Package	182		4.1	32.6
80½	77½	M&G Inc Zero Div	79½			
69	31	M&G Rec Cap	63½	+ ½		
93½	57½	M&G Rec Geared	93	+ ½	7.3	17.9
28	22½	M&G Rec Inc	25½	+ ½	26.5	4.9
198½	180	M&G Rec Pack	198	+ ½	3.4	38.0
112½	108½	M&G Rec Zero Div	112½	+ ½		
216	160½	M Curre Euro	212	+ ½	0.5	
84½	64½	M Curre Japan	72½	+ 1½		
125½	107½	M Curre Pac	112	...	2.2	
358	292½	Majestic	357		2.4	54.2
432	355	Mercantsy	427	+ 3	4.2	28.7
166½	132	Mercury Euro Pv	165½	- 1	1.7	47.6
84½	50½	Mercury Eur Wt	84½			
73½	57½	Mercury World	73½	+ 1½	1.4	
1		Mercury Wld Wts				
809	677½	Monks Inv Tst	802		1.5	65.9
202	180	Morg Gren Inc	193		4.4	27.0
97½	80½	Morg Wts	94½	+ 1		
82	70	Morg Lat Amer	74½	- 1½	0.7	
32½	22½	Morg Wts	28½	- ½		
139½	110½	Murray Ent	139		3.0	44.2
32½	10	Murray Ent Wts	32	+ 1½		
71	53½	Murray Emg Eco	70½		1.0	
11½	7½	Murray Em Ec W	9½			
529½	448	Murray Income	526	+ ½	3.5	37.7
494½	431½	Murray Int†	494½		3.6	32.1
210½	205½	Murray S/C OP	210½	+ ½		
395	270	Murray S/C Cap	385	- 2		
64½	58½	Murray S/C Inc	59		25.7	4.7
5150	4360	Murray S/C US	5175		3.0	
428½	340	Murray Smsh	427	+ ½	1.8	55.0
406½	379½	Murray Vent	385		4.9	23.0
289	271½	Natwest Ent	286		2.2	44.1
5½	2½	Newmarket	2½			
56½	34½	Pacific Assett	46½	+ ½	1.1	
121½	83	Perpetual Euro	121	- ½	0.5	
156½	125	Perp Inc Gth	146		3.3	43.7
37	27½	Perpetual Jap	30½			
377½	322½	Perpl Uk Sm Cot	377½		2.3	48.2
£200½	£168	Personal Assets	£199		1.5	
148½	130½	Prolific Inct	147	+ ½	3.6	31.5
354	270	RIT Cap Ptnr	350½	- 2	0.6	
545½	516½	Robeco	535½	+ 1½	2.0	
553	524	Rolinco	543	+ 1½	0.8	
59½	37½	Schrd Asia Pac	51½	- ½	1.2	
73	56½	Schrod Emg Cot	71½	- 1		
165½	142	Schrod Inc Gwtht	162		3.6	29.1
61½	48	Schrod Jap Gwth	53½	+ ½		
282½	152	Schrod Korea	232½	+ 1½		
81½	43½	Schrod Split Cap	77½	- ½		
135	114½	Schrod Split Inc	129½	+ ½	8.5	
160	154½	Schrod Split Zero	155½			
174½	142	Schrod Uk Gwth	168		2.6	45.4
182½	165½	Schrod Vent Inc	182		1.2	
379½	311	Scot	373	+ ½	2.1	59.3
233	183½	Scot American	229½	- 1½	3.0	39.8
144½	91½	Scot Asian	133			
139½	110½	Scot Eastern†	132½	- ½	1.9	51.7
390	316½	Scot Mtge	388	- 1½	1.7	
104	100½	Scot Natr Tst	103½	...	10.1	10.8
140½	119½	Scot Value	135		1.9	28.3
2658½	2168½	Second Alliance	2615	+ 2½	2.6	48.9
131½	112½	Secs Tst of Scot	129½		3.6	38.1
187	149½	Shires Smlr	186		4.2	29.1
164½	133½	Smaller Cost	161		2.6	
385	353	St Andrew Int†	376½		3.3	36.8
602	484	Temple Bar	586	- 4½	4.1	29.7
97	82½	Throgmorton	96½		3.0	42.6
128½	102½	Toload Emg Mkt	124½	+ ½	1.1	72.6
234½	167½	TR Euro Growth	234		0.5	
48½	44½	TR Property	48½		2.7	33.9
412½	374	TR Tech Inv#	400		11.9	32.0
364	273	Tarkey Trust	363½	+ 3½	1.2	
158½	146½	Undervalued Asr	151½	+ 1½	1.9	67.0
163½	152	Value Inc Tst	163½		3.6	34.0
132½	102½	Value Real	130½		0.8	65.5
53½	40½	Warrants & Val	53½			
103½	87½	Wigmore	101		1.0	
385½	310½	Witan	375		2.3	46.3
74½	66½	Yeoman Inc	69		4.1	4.4

LEISURE & HOTELS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
29½	11	ABI Leis#	13½			15.1
512½	405½	Airtours	501½	+ 2½	1.7	25.2
30½	23½	Ald Leis†	30		4.2	8.5
21	16	Asang Leis	19			
155	120	BS Group	123½		5.2	
130	110	Baldwin†	125		4.0	10.2
120	82	Bluebird Toys	111		10.8	
800	667½	Boosey Hwks	775		1.6	
33½	27½	Burndene	31		8.3	7.9
159½	95	Capital Corpn	108½	+ 8½	6.1	
83½	55	Chudert	80		3.1	18.2
109½	70½	Clubhaus	91½			24.3
292	223	Enrocamp	290	- 1	5.4	12.2
104	67	Euro Disney	99½	- ½		
138½	128½	Euro Leisure†	134½	- 1½	3.9	8.5
173½	100	First Choice	160		2.2	55.7
367½	269½	First Leisure	365½		3.1	20.8
145½	110½	Friendly Holelst	140		5.3	
1172	837	Granada	1044	- 15	1.7	21.5
47½	36½	Hi-Tec Sports	38½	+ ½	6.5	7.4
398	207½	Holmes Placet	267½	+ 2½	1.4	
282½	165½	Hornby	218½	...	3.7	10.6
378	310	Hotelock	332½		4.2	17.7
183½	148	Jarvis Hotels	165½	- 3½	3.4	10.6
526½	351½	Jurys Hotel	521½	- 5	1.6	25.0
35	24½	Kunick	29½	- ½	3.2	15.1
370	250	Ladbroke	342	- 4	2.6	25.0
328½	163½	London Clubs	203½	+ 3½	5.1	14.7
342½	182½	Macdonald Hts	230	- 3½	2.5	17.3
161½	125½	Man Utd†	126½		1.6	30.3
59½	34½	Mandarin Ornt†	44½	...	4.8	
570	418½	Millennium & Cop	570	+ 3	1.9	22.0
1½	1	Millwall Hldgs	1			
102½	77½	Newcastle Utd†	92	+ ½	2.2	9.9
600	400½	Northern	548		1.8	33.3
74½	54½	Prism Leisure	55		15.5	3.7
25½	19½	Queensborough	22		2.3	8.4
29½	12½	Queens Most	27½			6.1
421	283½	Rank Grp†	384½	+ 2½	5.9	14.9
49	38½	Regal Hotel†	43		3.6	
75½	50½	Ryan Hotels IE	73		3.0	15.3
1900	1175	Savoy Hotel 'A'†	1557½		1.7	25.5
51½	31½	Sheffield United	32	- 1½		
252½	232½	Sinclair (Wm)†	241½	- 1	4.7	11.7

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
60	53½	Southampton	71		1.8	
132	31	Stair	132		2.4	20.1
276	250½	Stanley Leisure	253		2.0	18.3
10	4	Stadeer	7½	- ½		
546	385	Tottenham#	549			
194	157	Thistle Hotels	172½	- 2	3.0	14.3
76½	59½	Tottenham Hot	67½	- 1	1.9	17.3
201½	135½	Vardon	175½	- 1½	1.7	21.0
335	302½	Wembley	322½		1.0	9.5
158½	120	Zetters Gp	133		10.1	7.6

MEDIA

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
405	324	Abbot Mead†	378½	- 3	2.1	
175½	145½	Adscene	171½	- ½	6.2	17.9
87½	64½	Aegis Gp	81	- ½	0.9	22.2
154	70	Aspen Gp	35		3.3	
195	152½	Atlantic Telecom	181½			
79½	50½	BBB Design	67½	+ 1		
225	185	Barbour Index	191		6.6	21.9
3½	1½	Brentwe	2½			
330	320	Buck (A&C)	287½		4.6	
372½	267½	Border TV	345½	+ ½	2.5	26.6
470	410	Bristol	463½		4.3	16.1
268½	129½	Brit Allcrdr	259½	+ 15	0.9	37.3
594	213	Bskyb†	432½	- 3½	1.7	26.3
236½	162½	CIA Gp	230		1.5	
747½	497	Capital Radio	670	+ 13½	2.6	20.8
561	408	Carlton Comm	461	+ 9	3.4	13.3
234½	145	Chrysalis Grp	232	- 1	1.9	19.4
742½	602½	Chrysalis	742½		0.5	
87½	77	Cliv of Lon	86		9.0	11.1
137	88	Cordiant Comms	119	+ 1	1.0	
178½	143½	Creative Pub	177½	+ 3½	4.9	62.9
2500	2094½	Daily Mail	2407½	+ 12½	1.3	29.0
2493½	2000	Daily Mail 'A'	2435½	+ 3½	1.2	29.1
206½	129½	Denog	185	- ½		
247	203	Dorling Kndt	223	+ 1½	2.5	63.0
415	365½	Dudley Jenkin	378½		1.7	27.1
1354	985	EMAP	1253½	+ 43½	1.4	29.7
685	420	EMI	439	- 14	3.3	69.1
1117½	343½	Eidos	343½	- 21½	2.7	74.8
2247½	1495	Economey Pb	2000		3.2	22.0
67	50½	Frost†	65½		1.3	11.8
555	481	Flextech	502½	- 1		
206½	117½	GGI Group	201		4.0	30.8
192½	155½	GWR Gp	182½		1.9	34.6
395	244	Gesmouse Group	247½		3.6	12.4
49½	34½	Goodhead	43		1.5	14.1
435	290	HIT Ent	432½	+ 2½	0.2	74.1
287½	262½	Haynes Pub†	282½		5.0	11.8
13½	9½	Highbury Hce	11½			
245	204	Hodder Hdlnt	241		3.7	15.3
580	400	Home Counts	560		1.3	
490	365	IBC	486	- 1	2.7	
80	70½	ITE Group	77½	- 1		
23½	18½	Incepto	20½	- ½		12.4
397½	327½	Independent	367½		2.2	
162	122	Interregnt	123½		4.8	9.0
235½	196½	Johnston Press	223	- 3½	1.7	17.2
353½	328	LLP Group	333½	+ ½	1.8	27.2
48	30	Lopext	44½		2.8	9.5
449½	305	Madent	438½	+ 2½	1.7	
38½	23½	Mediakeyt	31½		5.4	11.9
1125	940	Metal Bulletin	1125	+ 25	2.6	28.4
213½	170	Mirror Grt	183½	- 1½	3.4	11.8
1190	713	More Gp	1120	- 1½	1.8	
435½	333	News Corp	429½	+ 7½	0.3	18.7
377	292½	News Corp Pref	372	+ 5½	0.8	
308½	252½	Newsquest	301		2.2	16.9
15½	11½	Osprey Comms	13			
1013	705	Pearson†	946	- 30	2.6	27.1
56½	34½	Phonelink	39			
922½	867½	Portsmth Sund	922½		2.0	18.9
75	51½	Quarto†	70		8.0	9.5
730	578	Reed Intl†	585	- 20	3.1	28.6
745	509½	Reuters†	660	+ 6	2.5	24.7
173½	100½	Saatchi	164	+ 13½	0.9	
748½	651	Scot Medi	725	- 1½	3.9	17.3
482	375	Scot Radio	482		2.5	20.1
54½	40½	Shandwick	48½		4.2	10.1
13½	6½	Sleepy Kids	9½	+ ½	1.1	
550	448	Southnews	545	- 3	1.9	18.7
22½	17½	Sterling Pub	19½			4.4
115½	85½	Taylor Nelson	108½	+ 1½	1.2	
230	204	Television Cot	229		2.0	16.2
1820	1549½	Thomson Corp	1786½	+ 22	2.6	37.3
573	483½	Trinity Intl†	522½		3.2	16.6
245	205	Ulster TV	210		3.4	
831	630	Utd News†	794	+ 4	3.0	17.3
115½	84½	VCI†	92½	- 1½	10.7	6.8
107½	75½	VTR	107½	+ 5	5.5	11.4
395	240	WPP	385½	- 6½	0.6	24.5
186½	123½	Wilmington	185½		0.9	35.6

MINING

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3084½	2290½	Ang Am Coal	3084½	+ 31½	5.3	7.2
3468½	1975	Ang Am	3212½	- 18½	2.6	
2978½	2068½	Ang Am Gold	2978½	+ 187½	5.3	
971½	643½	Anglo Am Plat	962½	+ 3½	2.7	26.4
3134½	2040½	Anglogold	3134½	+ 228½	6.7	14.9
22½	14½	Anglo Pac Grp	15½	- ½		
31½	22	Arcon Intl	24			
645½	411½	Ashanti	645½	+ 15½	1.9	
66½	47½	Ashton	48½	+ 1	3.2	
112	47	Avocet	56	+ ½		
185	133½	Billiton	170	- 1	3.5	14.2
34½	31½	Bolera	33½		3.5	
20½	15	Bougainville	15½	+ ½		
299½	232½	Central Pacific	298½			
49½	21½	Cons Murchison	47½	+		1.4
1809½	1082½	De Beers	1537½	- 3½	3.7	9.0
420½	337½	Driefontein	385½	+ 1½	3.2	12.4
189½	88	Durban	189½	+ ½		
87½	57½	E Rand Gold	77½	+ ½	21.5	3.3
15	10½	E Rand Prop	12½			21.8
253½	128½	Elandsrand	236½	+ ½	7.3	
273½	219½	Emg China Ct†	240½	+ 3	6.8	11.2
126½	92	Exander	124½	+ ½	12.4	
340½	92	FS Cons	326½	+ 1	11.5	8.7
35½	17	FS Dev	35½	+ 1		
1040½	734½	GFSA	1031½	+ 3½	2.6	21.0
142½	85½	Gencor	142½	+ ½	2.7	9.2
136	88½	Gold Fields Prop	124½	+ ½	6.2	13.5
23½	14½	Greenwich R 'A'	20	+ ½		
58	31½	Gwalia Cons	58	+ 1	1.4	10.3
275½	112½	Harmony	274½	+ 1		8.6
712½	443½	Impala Plat	700	+ 3½	2.4	14.0
13½	9½	Kenmare Res	10½	- ½		
27½	14	Kidston	27½	+ 3		
11½	7	Meekatharra	7			
42	39	MIM	42	+ 2½	2.3	
1087½	900	Minorco†	1031½	+ 3½	3.7	
105	65	Monteagle†	97		5.0	
73½	53	Normandy	71½	+ 3½	3.3	15.2
177½	152½	North	169½	+ 3	3.0	23.7
60	22½	Pasaling Tin	32½	+ 5	1.5	
111	64½	RGC	72½	+ 1½	5.4	3.8
142½	80	RJB†	117	+ 2	21.4	
29½	24½	Rackwood	26½	- ½	17.0	
155½	77½	Randfontein	146	+ 5	4.1	15.4
121½	80½	Reunion Mng	80½			
894	641	Rio Tinto	865	+ 24	3.7	16.3
858½	665½	Rio Tinto Ltd	858½	+ 28	3.2	30.9
8½	4	St Barbara	8½	+ 3		
191	128	St Helena	166½	+ ½	19.3	2.4
192½	138½	Sons Gwalia	190½	+ 5½	5.3	13.5
130½	100	Sibern Pacific	100	- 1½		
1175	793½	Southvaal	1140½	+ 6½	10.3	
228½	177½	WMC†	223	+ 6½	2.1	27.8
27	12	Wankie Col Z	14½		7.5	5.2
67½	40½	Water Hall	43½	+ 2		
443	381½	Walls Blake†	386		5.7	
1563½	975	Western Deep	1493½	+ 3½	5.4	
149	109½	Zambia Copper	112½	+ ½		

OIL & GAS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
212	155½	Abbot Group	202	- ½	1.6	
32½	19½	Alliance Res	22½	+ ½		
64½	54	Ammos	62½			
77	63½	Aus Oil & Gas	64½	- 1½		
27½	9½	Aviva Per	13½			
430	298½	Br Borneo	341½		1.0	
343	265	BG	305	- 1	3.3	26.0
959	708½	Br Petroleum†	916½	- 16	3.0	20.4
1½	½	Buta Resources	1	- ½		
1275	895	Burmah Castrt	1230	+ 33	3.3	18.1
496½	290½	Cairn Energy	340	+ 18½		
119	89	Canticle	108½	+ 1½		
14½	10½	Coplex Res	11½			
22½	19½	Dana Pet	21½			
72½	51½	Dragon Oil	56½	- 3		
28½	19½	Edin Oil & Gs1	21½		1.7	15.8
10	5½	Emerald Energy	5½			
596½	510	Enterprise†	544	+ 12	4.0	28.5
14½	11	Fortune	11	- ½		41.4
300½	240	Hardy Oil	253½	+ 9½	0.5	
47½	33½	JKX Oil & Gas	35			
385	300½	KBC Adv Tech	352		1.2	31.1
300	240	LASMO†	259½	- ½	0.9	69.6
42½	35½	Lasmo (Unds)	39½	+ ½	21.3	
82	56½	Monument	64½	+ 2½		23.1
3006½	2612½	Norsk Hydro	3006½	+ 128½	1.9	9.7
127	97	Oil Search	111	- 1		
58½	41½	Paxos	44½	+ ½		
54½	37	Premier†	41	+ 2	1.8	8.7
58	29½	Ptarmenzd Rs	35½			
477½	331	Ranger	415	+ ½	4.6	7.4
3616½	3031½	Royal Dtch Fl	3381½	- 53½	2.8	25.9

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4878½	3596½	Scottishprgs	4746½	- 62½	1.0	
432½	385	Shell†	438½	- 3½	3.3	24.7
270½	276	SOCO Intl	276	- 2		
7568½	5847½	Total	6742½	- 25	2.0	
332½	242½	TCL	247½			

OTHER FINANCIAL

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
134	87	Aberdeen Asst	131½	- 2	3.6	38.6
775	465	AMVESCAP†	695	- 35	1.0	31.9
199½	139½	BAD	197½	- 4½	4.3	17.3
55½	44½	Berry Bch Nol	44½	- 3	8.4	11.0
294	247	Bucket Inv	255	- 3		
362½	245½	Brewin Dolphin	354½		3.3	17.2
889	725	Caledonia	881	- 2½	2.7	33.5
4050	2850	Cazenove	4000		1.1	16.9
680	389½	Cizmei	677½	- 1½	1.8	33.9
44½	27½	Chrcpe	40	+ ½	3.1	13.1
795	526½	Close Bros	782		2.1	22.7
600	433	EFM†	598½	+ 2	5.2	14.4
32½	20	Exco	23		4.1	
36½	19½	Fichers Intl	36½	+ 1	2.3	
219½	197	Friends Ivory Ssme	218½		4.3	
403	332	Gerrard	373½		5.4	16.8
290½	247½	Hambros	284	+ 2	3.3	27.2
1705	1425	Henderson	1625		3.6	22.4
202½	148½	Hitach Cred	202½		2.7	18.6
180	145	Investment Co	180		2.4	
177½	136½	Jardine Strat	158½	+ 3	5.6	
164½	111½	Johnson Fry†	150	- 1½	3.3	
620	570	Leopold J	590	+ 5	4.2	25.9
619½	462½	Liberty Intl†	599½	- 4	3.7	26.2
476½	343½	Lon Forfaingt	444½	+ 2	3.5	14.8
217½	163½	London Pacific	199½	+ 5	8.7	
160	110½	Lon Scot Bk	146		2.9	25.8
263½	232½	Man ED & F	246	- 2½	5.6	9.9
1935	1407½	M & G	1792½	- 25	2.8	29.0
324½	182½	Paragon▲	223½		1.5	9.5
4250	2682½	Perpetual	3897½	- 7½	3.0	26.3
1024	795	Provident	991	- 28	3.5	27.5
617½	400	Rathbone Bro†	570		3.1	22.8
69½	54½	Rea Brothers	65½		1.9	13.1
62½	49½	Roland Tdt	60½		3.5	13.7
107½	80	SEC Group	85		7.5	6.6
392	317½	S & U	331		5.9	10.3
3000	1730	Schroders†	2952	+ 2	1.0	33.8
2638	1525	Schroders N/Vt	2515	+ 25	1.1	28.8
775	610	Secure Tst	752½		3.8	
185½	136½	Singer & Fried	173½	+ 1	3.9	12.2
62½	48½	Towry Law	61½			
5½	3½	Trio Hldgs	3½			
81½	61½	Union	65½			
51	46½	Versailles Grp	50½		1.1	30.5
437½	397½	Woelsil	437½		4.1	17.7

PHARMACEUTICALS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
150	48½	Brit Biotech	50	- 3½		
750	600	Cantab Pharms	632½			
332½	272½	Celltech	320			
356½	220	Chiroscience	316			
201	85	Core Group	85			
205	162	Cortecs	172½			
1983	1330	Glaxo Wellc†	1590	+ 9	2.4	34.5
135	81½	ML Laboratories	87½			
185	140	Medeva†	163	+ 3	3.4	7.6
260	165	Oxford Molecula	188½	+ 2		
310	265	Peptide Therap	280			
513½	194½	Powderject	480	- 7½		
92½	43½	Proteus Intl	59½	+ 1½	...	
71	59	Ransom (Wm)	60½		5.3	12.2
181½	124½	Quadrant Health	168½	- 4		
382½	260	Scotia	340	+ 15	...	
446½	285½	Shire Pharms	440	- 4	...	
103½	47½	SkyePharma	81½	- ½		
888	618	SmithKline†	689½	- 6½	1.6	33.3
223	169	Therp Ant Inc	169	- 1	...	
652½	422½	Vanguard	585	- 2½	...	
182	45½	Vanguard Wts	152½			
245	145	Xenova	181½			
2850	2114	Zeneca†	2486	+ 15	1.9	32.3

PRINTING & PAPER

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
94	83	AG Holdings	84		9.6	12.1
640	520	API	630		2.4	17.4
117½	68½	App Holo	91½	- 1		
206½	145½	Arjo Wiggins†	205½	+ 3	3.9	11.0
21	18½	Bath Press	19		3.6	8.0
480½	438½	Beaxmost	451½	- 1	4.5	
198½	144½	Blagden	177½	- 1	2.1	
3571½	2578½	Bowater Inc	3503½	- 12½		
313½	233½	Bowater Intl†	298½		1.4	
527	435	Br Polythent	499	+ 7	5.0	
291	219½	Bund	275	+ 5	2.5	15.5
141½	118½	Capital Indst	135		5.6	
261½	228½	Cropper (James)	227½		2.6	8.1
399	266½	De La Rue	303½	- 1½	9.9	7.9
274½	252½	Dolphin Packt	261½		3.9	12.3
69½	62½	Fairway Group	69½		7.3	21.1
100	70	Ferguson Intl	86		6.5	8.5
197½	145½	Filofax	186		2.6	13.0
105	56½	Investsp†	87½		10.7	10.0
219½	185½	Jarvis Porter	218½		4.3	12.8
361	284	Low & Bonart	348		4.8	11.7
25½	18½	Lowe (Robert)†	23½	- ½	2.2	8.5
79½	65½	MY Holdings	73		4.6	9.9
177½	132½	Macfarlane	160	+ ½	3.5	
335	213½	Photobition	274	+ 10	0.7	45.4
174½	149½	Plysu	172½	...	5.8	13.1
30	25	Porter Chadbn	26½	...	3.8	8.5
298½	229	REXAM†	285		7.2	10.8
532½	508	St Ives Gp	511½	- 3	2.9	15.2
365½	227½	Sappi	360½	- ½	2.3	...
68½	28	Security & General	53½			
122½	92½	Skillaw	118½	- 1½	2.5	30.4
233½	165½	Smith David	207	+ ½	4.8	12.8
211½	156	Smurfit (Jeff)	209	- 2½	2.1	
168	165	Sonic	114		3.4	12.5
146	133½	Tinsley Robor	143		2.6	15.9
43½	16	Wace	35½	+ 1½		
285½	247½	Waddington	268½		5.0	11.9
347½	268	Watmough	347		3.8	17.8
287½	223	Wyndeham	285	- ½	2.4	17.3

PROPERTY

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
116½	81	Allied Lon	114½		4.5	8.2
195	155½	Asda	180½	- ½	2.1	23.8
34	28½	Ashquay Grp	33½			
172½	135½	Ashtene Hldgs	172½		3.7	
278½	243½	Bankwest	270		2.2	26.1
298½	253½	Billon†	271½	- 2½	5.1	19.8
173½	149	Birby	157½		6.9	10.5
5½	3	Bolton Gp	3½			
64	53½	Bourne End	81½	...	2.5	
332½	276½	Bradford	322½	+ 2	3.4	22.5
825	645	Br Land	775	+ 15	1.4	44.3
255	213	Brixton†	248½		4.7	30.0
132	100	Burford	125		2.3	
147	132	CLS Hldgst	142½	- 1	5.0	
318½	245½	Cap & Regal▼	285	- 5	1.5	27.8
460	407½	Cap Shop Cast	446	- 1½	2.6	28.1
327	353½	Cardiff Prop	335½	+ 2½	1.2	30.0
14½	9½	Castela	14			57.8
13½	8½	Catley Intl	9½			
418½	343½	Chelsfield†	370		1.1	
633	590	Chesterfield	633	+ 1½	2.6	
37	28	Chesterton Intl#	36			28.8
53½	34½	City-Site Ests	35			
107	90	Cleveland Tst	96		7.9	12.0
95½	82½	CNC Props	88½		4.7	
244½	185½	Compco	243½		2.2	20.3
1685	1605	Daejan	1685		3.0	16.1
21	15½	Danes Estates	18	+ 1		11.1
126½	95½	Debenham Tewn	112½		3.1	13.2
89½	69½	Delancey Ests	89½	+ 7	2.2	18.3
223½	192½	Dencora	223½	+ 2½	2.8	
598	562½	Derwent Hldgs	596½		1.4	40.9
355	283½	Development Sec	336½		1.0	20.8
205½	172½	Edge Properties	202½	...		21.6
420	410	Estates Agency†	420		5.5	19.1
85	75½	Estates Gen†	75½		1.3	18.5
157½	139½	Evans Of Leeds	157½	+ 4	2.8	18.4
42½	36½	Fletcher King	40		6.2	13.2
67½	61½	Folkes Group	67	+ ½	4.0	
67	57½	Folkes Group nv	66½	+ ½	4.0	
540	461	Frogmore†	532½	- 1½	4.7	13.9
19	14½	Golden Land Inv	15½			
370	332	Grainger	364		2.6	
256	237½	Gt Portland	277	- ½	4.1	30.4
196½	159	Grantchester	188		0.7	56.5
228½	214½	Greycoat	216		0.9	26.3
147½	104½	Hambro Colywt	139½	- ½	2.7	9.0
537½	465½	Hammerson†	524	+ 1½	2.8	30.9
33½	25½	Hampton Trust	28½	- 1½		
608	555	Helical Bar	605		2.1	16.6
50	46½	Hemingway	49		1.4	16.3
130½	69½	HK Land†	88½	- 1	8.1	
325	300	Jermyn▼	321	- 1½	2.3	78.9
134½	94	LSH	130	+ 4½	1.5	9.5
95½	84½	Lands Impt	85½	- 1	6.9	
1190	337½	Land Sec	1049	- 4	3.2	30.2
36½	31	Lon & Assoc	35½		3.2	
15	9½	Lon & Metro	14	- ½		1.0
137½	118½	Lon Merch Sec	136½		4.5	22.3
619½	509½	MEPC	615	- 1½	3.6	27.9
119½	99½	MWB Group	111½		4.2	
150	132	McKay Secs	149		3.7	21.0
89½	65½	Marnale Mrs	84½	- ½	3.3	7.6
353	270	Milner Est	349		2.5	16.7
229½	202½	Minerva▲	224½	+ 1½	0.9	
35	25	Moorfields Est	34½		2.0	
1900	1681½	Mountview	1700		3.1	11.9
169	156½	Muckow (A&J)	160	- 2	5.7	17.4
35	31	OEM	33½			1.8
74½	52½	ORB	68½			29.0
38½	31½	Olives Prop	32		2.4	
700	635	Peel	700	+ 12½	1.5	
335½	277	Pillar Prop	321½		2.0	46.7
13½	7½	Premier Land	9			
204½	189	Quintain	196		2.2	32.7
28½	24	Raglan	25½		5.9	10.8
35½	26	Regalian	32½		4.1	16.1
202½	157½	Rugby Est	192½		1.7	
81½	67½	St Modwen Prpt	78½		4.8	9.6
73	58	Savile Grdn	71½		5.2	27.1
143	111½	Savills	129½	- 2½	3.6	9.0
102	92	Scot Met	102	+ ½	3.8	17.9
232	217	Shaftesbury	228	- ½	1.2	52.9
414½	342½	Slough Estates	398½	+ 5½	2.6	26.6
252½	242½	Smart (J)	252½	+ 10	4.9	9.4
100½	93	TBI	97	...	2.6	31.8
195½	178½	Tops Ests	178½	...	1.8	38.6
118	102	Town Centre	115		4.3	14.3
162½	149½	Trafford Park	162		3.1	17.7
183½	87½	UK Land	100		3.8	13.6
278½	251½	Warner	269½		6.0	18.9
280	255	Warnford	260		3.7	16.4
110½	95	Wates▲	95½			
450½	345½	Workspace Grp	446½		4.3	16.4

RETAILERS, FOOD

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
227½	173	ASDA Group	195	- 9	2.0	18.3
73½	56	Budgen	69½		2.6	14.2
80½	55½	Dairy Farm Intl	80½	+ 2	4.5	
212½	157	Farepak	168		4.0	11.5
40½	37½	Fitzwilton	37½		7.6	10.3
152	95	Fyffes	150	+ 5	1.4	17.5
2512½	1986	Greggs†	2412½		1.9	19.9
230	119	Iceland Group†	230	+ 2	3.9	18.0
421½	282	Kwik Save	411	- 1½	6.1	14.8
271½	227½	Morrison (Wm)	268½	- ½	1.0	21.6
50	38	Park Foods	49		7.6	14.2
402	330	Safeway	364½	- 12½	5.0	12.7
567	370	Sainsbury J	479	+ 1	3.3	19.5
365½	307½	Somerfield	347½	- 4	3.8	11.9
280½	194½	T & S Stores	276½		3.9	
620	485	Tesco	563	- 10½	2.6	23.6
293½	256½	Thorntons†	278	- 2	2.7	22.0
590	505	Watson & Philip	575		4.1	16.0

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
303½	235½	Alexon	235½			
266	197	Alldes	197	- 2	5.1	9.6
180	134½	Allied Carpets†	136	+ 1½	7.1	10.6
508	361½	Arcadia	431	- 4	0.4	17.4
683	390	Argos	608	- 8	3.9	19.3

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
41½	19½	Ashley (Laura)	32½	...		
190½	164½	Austin Reed	177	+ 12	5.5	
337½	300½	Beale	301½		3.9	10.3
190	157	Beattie (J)	190	- 1½	6.7	
154½	119½	Bentalls	154½	+ 7½	3.2	
498½	336½	Blacks Leis	375½	- 3	1.5	14.6
146	109	Body Shop	117½		5.3	12.4
990	602	Boots†	918	- 10	2.9	21.3
57½	37½	Brown & Jackson	45½	+ 1½		13.2
460	359	Brown (N)	375		2.4	20.7
505	355	Carpetright	360	- 3	7.5	11.9
285	227	Christies Intl	247	+ 6½	2.7	19.2
432½	398	Church	405		5.2	
135½	95½	Clinton Cards	135½	+	2.8	
277½	169½	Country Cars	235½	+ 1	1.0	17.0
432½	332½	Courts Fmnsh	377½		1.3	16.3
587½	285	DFS Furniture	286	- ½	5.9	11.4
433	339½	Debenhams	345	- 3	0.8	16.3
638	459	Dixons Grp	585	+ 5½	2.4	17.6
68½	45½	Elec Boutique	54½	- 3½		
4½	3	ERA Gp	4½			
70½	46½	Essex Furn	50	...	9.4	10.1
170	150	Falkland Isls	153½			16.7
198½	162½	Fine Art Dev	197½	+ 2	6.1	15.2
323½	203½	Fired Earth	307½	+ 5	1.4	19.1
564	445½	Flying Flw Ulst	527½	+ 3	1.7	
137½	95½	Formoster	136½	+ 16	3.1	
465	365	French Conn	460		0.9	16.3
45½	34½	Gieves	36½		3.9	
282½	217½	Goldsmiths Gp	270		3.8	
145½	127½	Grampus Hog	129		6.5	10.6
830	700	GUS	814	+ 2	2.8	21.2
294½	220½	Hamleys	283½	+ 1	5.0	
116½	75	Hampden Gp	104½		3.5	10.1
343½	269½	Harveys Furn	287	+ 6½	3.0	29.8
221½	144½	Hse of Fraser	156½		4.4	17.3
164	117½	Hughes (T)▼	163	+ 2½	2.6	
623½	489	JJB Sports	546	+ 8½	7.6	21.2
1301	709½	Kingfisher†	1112	+ 5	2.6	20.2
355	250	Liberty	272½	- 2½	1.2	
44½	25½	Limelight	32			
141	73½	MFI	89	+ ½	6.9	9.6
654	489	Marks Spencer	560	- 7½	3.0	20.4
46½	35½	Merchant Retail	46		1.0	32.2
291½	216½	Moss Brost	265		2.8	
860	493½	Next	506	+ 6½	4.6	13.3
33½	26	Owen (S)	27½			
505½	382½	Ordiane Int	505		3.1	16.1
85	43½	Partners	45		7.4	8.3
88½	79½	Partridge Fnet	80		7.6	7.0
39½	25½	QS Hldgs	27½			
320	275	Rosebnst	277½		5.3	
107½	85½	Sae Group	96½	+ 1½	9.6	
64	46½	Sears	61½	- ½	7.6	46.5
44½	29	Signet Group	44	+ ½		2.2
587½	389½	Smith WH	558½	- 6½	3.5	
1300	1050	Sothebys	1290		1.9	
292	216	Storehouse	237½	- 3½	4.4	12.0
92	69½	Stylo	70½		8.3	
221½	140½	Thorn	203½	- 1	8.2	11.2
137½	71½	Tie Rack	73½	- 8	3.5	
3½	2½	Upton & South	2½			26.6
352	261½	Wickest	350½		0.7	58.1
373½	280½	Wyevalet	342½	- 2	2.5	22.0

SUPPORT SERVICES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
743½	535	AEA Tech	723½	+ 1	1.5	34.4
205½	129½	Acorn	172½	- 5		
200	152½	Aggreko	192½	+ 5	2.5	23.5
96	68	Alpha Airpts	94½	- 1	7.3	
53	32½	Alphameric	35½			17.4
79	47	Anite Grp	70½	- 1		
533½	362½	Allero WS	492	- 1	1.9	29.0
214½	160	BNB Rest	209½		4.7	12.0
790	507½	BPP†	725	...	2.8	25.6
783½	637½	BTG	652	+ 9½	0.2	
39	17½	Br Thornton	38½			
110½	79½	Brooks Servicet	107½	- 1½	4.7	
897½	568½	Business Post	897½	+ 5	1.6	38.6
2700	1517½	CMG†	2677½	+ 5	0.4	69.4
469	335	CRT Grt	439		1.2	61.1
972½	812½	Caird Gp	937½		1.6	
498	311½	Capita Group†	484½	- 8	0.5	75.2
8½	6½	Chemex	8½	+ ½	2.9	10.8
257	212½	Corp Servicest	256½		2.9	18.9
31½	24½	Coutts Cnslig	35		0.5	
547½	317½	DCS Grt	520	+ 2½	0.5	
352½	235	Danka Bs Sys	318½	- 5	1.1	13.6
420	302	Davis Servicest	389	- 1½	3.6	21.3
820	678	Delphi	732½	+ 2½	1.2	
1017½	882½	Dagonst†	980	- 7½	0.3	74.8
27½	19½	Eurocopy	20½		14.6	3.4
67½	51½	EW Fact	55		4.6	
75½	51	El Data Prc	72½		3.8	16.1
1502½	927½	FI Group	1375		0.5	76.3
496½	409	Guardian IT	451	- 1		78.9
465	337	Harvey Nash	445		1.3	
1155	773	Hays	1099	- 28½	1.1	38.1
58	51½	High-Pointfndi	55½	- 1		
289	255½	Hogg Robinsn	285		4.5	13.3
1257½	585	JBA Hldgs	585	- 5	1.1	54.4
311	232½	Johnson Cleant	281½	- 2½	5.6	
69½	42½	Kalamazoo	45½	...	11.7	
862½	570	Kewill Sys	851½	+ 1½	1.5	20.4
24½	13½	Lase-Scan	21			
562½	317½	Lavendont	473½		1.0	30.8
1657½	1147½	Lopex	1582½	+ 17½	0.8	45.4
795	506	Lowest	775		1.2	48.2
201½	130½	Lynx Group	200½		1.2	29.4
75½	42½	MDIS	74			
1015	772½	MMT Comp	1097½	- 2½	1.4	33.9
147½	109½	MR Group	130½		3.8	17.3
550	320	Macro 4†	547½	+ 57½	5.9	15.8
77½	52½	Manimore Abbey	76	+ 1	1.1	22.8
721	478½	Micro Focus	557½	- 2½		41.1
125½	55	Microgen	125½	+ 2	5.0	16.7
3200	1825	Misys	2880	+ 10	0.6	48.2
300½	230½	MITIE Gp	289	- 3	1.0	31.7
53½	51½	Movo Group	53½		3.7	12.1
55½	41½	Orbis	50½	- ½	3.3	13.5
860	500	PSD	665	- 5	1.6	25.3
836½	635	Parity†	777½		0.8	37.2
365	240	Pegasus	350	+ 5	2.7	11.9
242½	145	Pesus	224		1.2	11.4
255½	151	Photo-Me	235		3.9	22.7
53½	35	Proudfoot	52	- 1½	1.2	12.3
247½	165	RCO	224	- 3½	8.9	29.0
305	218½	RPS Groupt	304		2.0	25.1
53	25½	Radius†	47		2.9	16.0
447½	317½	Real Time	437½	+ 10	1.7	15.1
113½	79	Rebus	102½	+ 1	2.3	22.5
193	119½	Reed Executive	173½		2.2	
189	162	Reliance Sec	180		4.8	15.9
418	265	Rentokil Int†	396		1.0	39.3
205½	152½	Ricardo Groupt	191		4.3	24.0
576	455	Robert Walterst	523½	- 7	0.9	24.1
510	275	Rolfe & Nolan	375	- 15		22.8
575	297½	Royalblue	320		0.9	43.1
1420	825	Sage Gp	1248	- 5	0.3	52.8
157	74	Sanderson	137½	- 1	4.5	13.0
905	551	Select Appt	901½	+ 44	0.5	38.6
2405	1475	Serco Gp	2170	+ 24	0.4	56.3
1310	868	Serco Gp	1195		0.7	50.0
195½	154½	Shanks & McEwan	175		2.9	22.1
905	520	Shenvd Intl	847½	+ 15	0.6	35.7
74	44	Simon Gpt	61½		1.3	16.3
61	37½	Sletchley	50½			
285	181½	Skillsgroup†	275½	+ 5½	1.9	25.3
125	103	Sta-Plast	104		13.6	10.3
187	92	Superscape VR	149			
116½	85	Tonex	103		2.8	17.2
3300	2250	Tyco Intl	3050		0.2	
126½	86½	WSP Groupt	100½		3.5	14.0
225	205	Warner Howrd	205	- 1½	6.6	8.3
280	176	Waste Mgt Intl	238			53.8
415½	332½	Waste Recygt	411½	+ 8	0.8	37.9
238½	199	Whitehead Mann	233½		2.5	19.3
92½	62½	Wolfe Young Grp	85	- 1½	5.2	12.9
500	304	Williams	451	- 2	3.6	23.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
718½	411½	BT	653	+ 4½	3.6	18.9
1637½	614½	COLT Telecom	1305	- 10		
765	457½	Cable Wireless	697	- 21	1.9	29.3
439	264½	Cable&Wire Coms	430	+ 8½		
755	252½	Energis	683½	- 15½		
310	250	Euro Telecom	308½	+ 1	1.1	25.9
189½	77½	General Cable	184	- 2½		
445	239½	Orange	418½	- 1½		
422	286½	Securicor	394½		0.6	51.2
109	69½	TeleWest	104	- 3		
682½	298	Vodafone	625½	+ 15½	1.0	51.5

TRANSPORT

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
355	210	Air London	350		2.3	21.5
357	218	All Nippon Air	258½	- 2½	0.5	
518	344½	Arriva	427½	- 6	3.9	12.1
388	282½	Assoc Br Portst	356½	+ 1	3.2	17.5
370	284½	Autologic	369		2.5	
244	168½	Avis Europe	226½	- 1	1.7	22.3
640	402½	BAA	617½	+ 2	2.6	18.9
651	498	Br Airways	625	- 4	3.1	31.3
110½	90½	Clarkson (H)	103½		5.0	11.5
179½	135½	Clydeport Cps	175½		4.0	
355½	317½	Dart	354		2.4	17.3
67½	43½	Eurotunnel Uts	56	- ½		
397½	221½	FirstGroup	391	- ½	1.9	27.9
140	125	Fisher (James)t	125		3.2	
690	580	Forth Portst	645		2.6	
627½	510	Go-Ahead†	626½	+ 5	1.8	15.0
601½	480	Goode Durant	591½		2.2	17.5
441	305½	Helphine Gp	376½		0.3	46.3
1055	740	Irish Cont	1055	...	0.5	22.5
88½	74½	Jacobst	88		3.2	38.3
92½	60	Lon O'Seas Frts	67½			
642½	490	Mersey Dockst	635	+ 9	2.9	24.4
187½	138½	NFC	184½	+ 2	3.8	19.3
913½	676	Natl Express	909½	+ 3	1.9	20.4
808½	562½	Ocean Groupt	808½	+ 6	2.2	24.9
104½	92½	Ocean Wilson	98½		4.8	17.7
933½	650	P & O Dfdt	895	...	4.3	20.3
116½	107½	P & O 5.5%	111½		6.2	
1083½	571½	Railtrack	1000	+ 5	2.8	19.0
130	98	Salvesen (C)	114½		6.3	16.4
47½	35	Seacon	40		3.9	30.4
296½	244	Seascope Ship	275		5.7	
311½	180	Servicert	261½	+ 2½	2.5	21.1
1105	765	Stagecoach	1105	+ 39	1.1	25.2
628	547½	Tiber & Britn	563		4.0	
300	251	TDG†	288½		7.3	18.8
116½	78½	Upland	102	- 2½	6.2	
72½	39½	Utd Carriest	49½	...	8.8	

WATER

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
987	780	Anglian	930½	+ ½	4.8	12.7
335	285	East Surrey	307		4.6	12.4
1053½	907	Hyder	987½	+ 3	5.8	8.3
124½	115½	Hyder Cn Pf	123	...	8.8	
770	660	Mid Kent Hlgs	760		5.1	11.3
1085	665	Severn Trent	959	- 31	4.9	10.6
3635	3265	South Staffs	3625		3.2	15.0
1005	864½	South West	995½	+ ½	4.8	12.6
1043	800	Thames	958	- 28	4.7	10.7
950	658	Utd Utilities	860	+ 10	5.6	13.9
550	465	Wessex	504	+ 1½	4.7	9.7
550	467½	Yorkshire	498½	+ 6	4.9	9.7

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
225	193	Cafe Inns	219	+ 2½	1.7	16.6
222½	155	Dawson Hldgs	184	...	3.3	16.5
38½	29	Freepages	37½			
65½	52	Megalomedia	52½		0.5	21.6
38	21½	Memory Corp▲	32½	- 1		
490	344	Prism Rail	400		2.8	
847½	620	Ramco Egy	657½	- 5		
820	740	Southern News	820	+ 11	3.2	16.1
94½	84½	Southern Vectis	87½	...	3.0	13.6
37½	14½	Trocadero†	25½	+ ½		

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index

BRITISH FUNDS

1998 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
116¹⁹⁄₃₂	116	Treas 4¾% 1998	116⁹⁄₃₂ xd		3.88	7.18
100¹⁄₃₂	100	Treas 7¼% 1998	100	..	7.25	7.65
102⁹⁄₃₂	100⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 14% 1998-01	100⁹⁄₃₂	- ¹⁄₃₂	13.91	6.63
105¹⁄₃₂	103⅝	Treas 15½% 1998	103⅝	- ¹⁄₃₂	14.97	6.96
104⁹⁄₁₆	102²⁵⁄₃₂	Exch 12% 1998	102²⁵⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁄₃₂	11.67	6.95
102⅝	101⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 9½% 1999	101⁹⁄₃₂	+ ¹⁄₃₂	9.33	6.88
106⅜	104¹⁷⁄₃₂	Exch 12¼% 1999	104½	+ ¹⁄₁₆	11.69	6.82
104⁹⁄₁₆	103¹⁄₃₂	Treas 10½% 1999	103⁹⁄₁₆	+ ¹⁄₁₆	10.11	6.77
99⅛	98⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 6% 1999	99⅛	+ ¹⁄₁₆	6.05	6.62
106¹⁄₃₂	105³⁄₃₂	Conv 10¼% 1999	105¹⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	9.73	6.61
105⅝	104⁹⁄₃₂	Conv 9% 2000	104⁹⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	8.64	6.53
104¼	103⅝	Treas 8% 2000	103⅝	+ ⅛	7.70	6.36
103⁹⁄₁₆	102⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 8½% 2000	103⅛	+ ⁹⁄₃₂	8.24	6.57
114⁹⁄₃₂	113⅛	Treas 13% 2000	113⅜	+ ⅛	11.49	6.53
109⅝	108⅝	Treas 10% 2001	109⅛	+ ⅛	9.16	6.53
102⅛	101⁹⁄₃₂	Treas 7% 2001	102⅛	+ ⅛	6.84	6.23
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
103⁹⁄₃₂	101⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 7% 2002	103⁹⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	6.78	6.11
113½	112⅛	Treas 9¾% 2002	113⁹⁄₃₂	+ ⅛	8.59	6.17
108⁹⁄₁₆	106⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 8% 2003	108⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	7.38	5.94
118⅜	116½	Treas 10% 2003	117⅜	+ ⅛	8.49	6.06
114⁹⁄₁₆	113	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113⅝	+ ⅛	10.18	6.42
93½	90⅝	Fund 3½% 1999-04	92⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	3.77	4.85
119⅜	116⁹⁄₃₂	Conv 9½% 2004	118⁹⁄₁₆ xd	+ ⅛	8.01	6.00
104⁹⁄₁₆	101⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 6¾% 2004	104⅜	+ ⅛	6.47	5.93
116⅝	113⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 8½% 2005	115⅛	+ ⅛	7.38	5.84
120⅝	117⅛	Conv 9½% 2005	119⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	7.94	6.00
130⁹⁄₁₆	128⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 12½% 2003-05	130⅛	+ ⅛	9.61	6.07
111⁹⁄₁₆	107¹⁄₁₆	Treas 7¾% 2006	110⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	6.78	5.85
112⁹⁄₁₆	108⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 7¾% 2006	111⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	6.93	5.93
107⅛	105⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 8% 2002-06	106⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	7.49	6.30
123⅛	121⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	9.57	6.14
119⅛	115	Treas 8½% 2007	118⅛		7.19	5.90
111	106⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 7¼% 2007	110⁹⁄₁₆		6.58	5.85
125²⁵⁄₃₂	121⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 9% 2008	124⁹⁄₁₆		7.24	5.85
118⁹⁄₁₆	113⅛	Treas 8% 2009	117⁹⁄₁₆		6.80	5.86
104⅛	99⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 6¼% 2010	103⁹⁄₁₆		6.04	5.83
129⁹⁄₁₆	124⁹⁄₁₆	Conv 9% 2011	128⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	7.00	5.86
131⅛	125⅛	Treas 9% 2012	129⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.93	5.88
98⁹⁄₁₆	93⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 5½% 2008-12	97⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	5.62	5.71
118⁹⁄₁₆	112⅛	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	117⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.61	5.91
LONGS (over 15 years)						
122⁹⁄₁₆	116⅛	Treas 8% 2013	121⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.60	5.88
125⁹⁄₁₆	118⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 8% 2015	123⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.45	5.80
139⁹⁄₁₆	127⁹⁄₁₆	Treas 8¾% 2017	133⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.55	5.82
129⁹⁄₁₆	121⁹⁄₁₆	Tr 8% 2021	128⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.25	5.78
UNDATED						
60⁹⁄₁₆	55⅛	War Ln 3½%	59⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	5.87	
42⁹⁄₁₆	38⅛	Treas 2½%	41⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	6.03	
67⁹⁄₁₆	61⅛	Consols 4%	64⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	6.18	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					5%	3%
198⅛	194⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2½% 2001	198⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	2.75	3.10
195⅛	192⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2½% 2003	195⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	2.82	3.05
126⁹⁄₁₆	124⅛	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	126⁹⁄₁₆ xd	- ⅛	2.72	2.92
212⅛	205⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2% 2006	212⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	2.79	2.93
193⅛	187⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2009	192⁹⁄₁₆	+ ⅛	2.81	2.93
203	195⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2½% 2011	202⁹⁄₁₆		2.82	2.92
169⁹⁄₁₆	162⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2½% 2013	168⁹⁄₁₆		2.81	2.90
184⅛	175⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2016	183⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	2.80	2.88
179⁹⁄₁₆	170⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 2½% 2020	178⁹⁄₁₆		2.82	2.89
152⅛	142⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2024	151⁹⁄₁₆		2.80	2.86
149⁹⁄₁₆	140⁹⁄₁₆	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	148⁹⁄₁₆	- ⅛	2.77	2.83

No dismissal in expiry of extended contract

British Broadcasting Corporation v Kelly-Phillips

Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment April 8]

Where a contract of employment for a fixed term of one year or more was extended for a term of a lesser period, such extension was under the same contract as that originally entered into. Accordingly, on the expiry of such a contract as extended, there was no dismissal and thus no scope for any claim of unfair dismissal since the waiver provisions relating to unfair dismissal claims, under section 197 of the Employment Rights Act 1996, applied.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing the appeal of the employer, the British Broadcasting Corporation, against the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal ([1998] ICR 1) which had dismissed its appeal from the decision of a London industrial tribunal on October 31, 1996, which had found that the employee, Linda Kelly-Phillips, was not excluded from bringing a claim for unfair dismissal.

Section 197 of the 1996 Act provides: "(1) Part X [Unfair dismissal] does not apply to dismissal from employment under a contract for a fixed term of one year or more if — (a) the dismissal consists only of the expiry of that term without its being renewed, and (b) before the term expires the employee has agreed in writing to exclude any claim in respect of rights under that Part in relation to the contract."

Mr Patrick Elias, QC and Mr John Bowers for the employer; Mr John Hendy, QC and Ms Jennifer Eady for the employee.

LORD JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that, although strictly the provisions of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 (section 142[1]) applied, the parties agreed that the court should confine its attention to the 1996 Act, the minor differences in language not amounting to any change in substance. Section 197(1) allowed an employer and an employee to contract out of the application of Part X where there was a dismissal from employment under a contract for a fixed term of one year or more if the dismissal consisted only of the expiry of that term without it being renewed.

There had been inconsistent interpretations of the relevant provisions. The problem arose over extensions by agreement of the fixed term of a contract, the dismissal occurring on the expiry of the extended term.

Was the contract governing the employment from which the employee was dismissed the varied contract, and was it one for the extended fixed term? Or was the contract the agreement by which the original fixed term was extended, the term of which was the extension only?

By section 235(1) "renewal" included extension, and, under section 95(1)(b) of the 1996 Act, for the purposes of Part X an employee was dismissed by his employer if "he is employed under a contract for a fixed term and that term expires without being renewed *under the same contract*".

It was accepted that the concept of dismissal in section 197(1)(a) was the same as that in section 95(1)(b).

Mr Hendy, agreeing with the appeal tribunal, submitted, inter alia, that an employee engaged under a fixed term contract for one year, who then had his engagement extended for a further three months, was properly to be regarded as having been employed on a fixed term contract for one year followed by a further fixed term of three months.

To regard the contract and the agreed extension as one fixed-term contract of 15 months for the purposes of section 197(1) distorted the natural meaning of the language.

But in his Lordship's view, and as Mr Elias submitted, section 95(1)(b) was of crucial importance: it recognised that there could be an extension of a fixed term of a contract "under the same contract". In other words, the extension did not necessarily mean that there was a new contract whereby the term was extended.

The more natural construction of the words in section 95(1)(b) was to treat them as referring to a renewal, including an extension, of the term on the same, or substantially the same, terms as the original contract, the contrast being with a new contract.

Support for that construction came from the contrast drawn in sections 138 and 141 between renewals of a contract and re-engagement under a new contract.

Since, under section 95(1)(b), there could be an extension of the *term without* there being a *new* contract, thereafter the term of that contract had to be the extended term, so that on its expiry a further extension under the same contract would also mean that there was no dismissal.

Importing such considerations into section 197(1), it would follow that the reference to a contract for a fixed term did encompass a contract which had been varied by an extension of the term under the same contract.

Support was also found in section 197(5) referring to "the term as renewed" and "the renewed term". Those references pointed clearly to the fact that where there had been a renewal of the fixed term under the same contract, the term from the commencement date under the original contract to the expiry date of the extended term was in contemplation.

In his Lordship's view, section 197(1) by its language had to have been intended to refer to dismissal from employment under a varied contract for an extended term.

In the present case, the contract commenced from September 4, 1994 to September 5, 1995. It was varied in August 1995 by the extension of the contract beyond its expiry date until December 31, 1995, all the other provisions of the contract continuing in force.

The extension of the term was effected by a contract, but did not create a new contract of employment; the extension was therefore under the same contract as that entered into in September 1994, and, for the purposes of section 197(1), there was no dismissal on *September 5, 1995*.

But there was a dismissal from employment under a varied contract for an extended fixed term of one year or more when the extended term expired on December 31, 1995 without being renewed.

Having considered the authorities, his Lordship found support from the majority decision of the Court of Appeal in *British Broadcasting Corporation v Ioannou* ([1975] QB 781; [1975] ICR 267), from the observations of the Northern Ireland Court of Appeal in *Mulrine v University of Ulster* ([1993] IRLR 545) and from the Employment Appeal Tribunal in *Bhatt v Chelsea and Westminster Health Care Trust* ([1997] IRLR 660).

Mr Hendy stressed the dangers and undesirability of employers being able to give employees short term contracts which were extended repeatedly. But his Lordship was not persuaded that that justified giving the statutory wording a gloss which otherwise it could not bear.

Employees had to give their consent to the extensions and to the waivers, although they might at times have little choice if they were to keep their jobs. But ultimately it was for Parliament to correct if the present interpretation of the existing statutory language was seen to lead to abuse.

Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Justice Evans gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Ms Elena Moran, Shepherd's Bush; Thompsons.

Landlord's entitlement to occupy his land

Dolgellau Golf Club v Hett

Before Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Auld

[Judgment April 3]

If a landlord had established that he intended to set up a business in the premises on the expiry of an existing business lease, and that it was reasonably practical to do so, the court should not embark on a detailed inquiry into the likely success of the planned business.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the trustees of the Dolgellau Golf Club from the refusal by Judge Burr in Aberystwyth County Court on August 15, 1997 of their application for a new tenancy from the landlord, Paul Hett.

Section 30 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 provides:

"(1) The grounds on which a landlord may oppose an application [for renewal of a business tenancy include] . . . (g) . . . that on the termination of the current tenancy the landlord intends to occupy the holding for the purposes, or partly for the purposes, of a business to be carried on by him therein. . ."

Mr David Parry for the golf club; Mr Robert S. Levy for the landlord.

LORD JUSTICE AULD said the case was a useful reminder that the issue as to a landlord's entitlement to rely on section 30(1)(g), on his intention to occupy demised land on the termination of a tenancy for the purpose of establishing a business was one of intention and its reasonable practicality to start such a business, not of the likely success of the business once established.

It was not part of the statutory formula, nor of the present judicial gloss on it, that a landlord, in seeking to satisfy the court of the reality of his intention, should be subjected to minute examination of his finances with a view to determining the financial viability and durability of the business he intended to establish.

The court was not there to police a landlord's entitlement to recover possession of his own property by examining the financial wisdom of his genuinely held plans for it.

Nor would it always be appropriate to test the reasonable practicability of a landlord's intention to establish a business by reference to the presence or absence of detailed building plans, planning and licensing consents or indications and the like.

There was an established planning use of the land and premises as a golf course and club house. Such detailed planning uncertainty as there was, arose largely because of Mr Hett's uncertainty as to what buildings the club might leave behind for him to purchase on the termination of the tenancy.

It might be that he should have been aware of his option under clause 4(2) of the lease to purchase the club's temporary buildings. But, in his Lordship's view, that was no reason to rely on his lack of detailed planning proposals for continuation of the established use as a means of attacking the reality of his intention to go ahead with his project.

The function of the judicial gloss on the statutory test of intention was to determine the reality of a landlord's intention to start a business, not the probability of his achieving its start, still less its ultimate success.

The test was whether the landlord had a reasonable prospect of achieving his genuine intention of occupying the demised property for the purpose of conducting a business there within a short or reasonable time after termination of the tenancy.

The critical primary facts found by the club were that Mr Hett had the personal qualities and the financial muscle to do what he genuinely intended, and that his method of going about it would reasonably depend on what, if any, agreement he and the club might make about the temporary structures. There was no proper basis for interfering with the judge's conclusion.

Lord Justice Hirst agreed.

Solicitors: J. Charles Hughes & Co, Dolgellau; Thorpe & Thorpe, Ross on Wye.

Occupation under licence

Gray and Others v Taylor

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Mummery and Sir John Vinelott

[Judgment April 2]

A person appointed under a charitable trust to occupy accommodation in an almshouse did not thereby become an assured tenant.

The relationship of trustee and beneficiary was such as to require an almsperson's occupation to be characterised as a licence and falling outside the category of cases identified by the House of Lords in *Street v Mountford* ([1985] 1 AC 809).

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by Mrs Dorothy Taylor from the decision of Judge Morrell sitting in Peterborough County Court in July 1997 on a preliminary issue holding that she did not occupy a flat in an almshouse administered by the defendants, trustees of Peterborough Almshouses and Relief in Need Charity, as an assured tenancy within the meaning of section 1 of the Housing Act 1988.

Mr David Watkinson and Ms Maggie Jones for Mrs Taylor; Mr Christopher McCall, QC and Ms Francesca Quint for the trustees.

SIR JOHN VINELOTT said that in February 1997 the trustees decided to terminate Mrs Taylor's appointment as an almsperson entitled under the trust of the charity to occupy the accommodation on the ground that her behaviour had been vexatious and had disturbed the quiet enjoyment of the almshouse.

In her defence Mrs Taylor claimed that she was an assured tenant so that her tenancy could not be brought to an end except by an order of the court and that the trustees had not established any of the grounds on which they would have been entitled to an order for possession.

Under the scheme established by order of the Charity Commissioners the almshouses belonging to the charity were to be used for the residence of almspersons being "poor persons of good character . . . not less than 60 years of age. . .".

They were to pay a weekly sum towards the cost of maintaining the almshouses.

Mrs Taylor's case was that she became entitled, when she was appointed an almsperson and allowed to occupy rooms in the almshouse, to exclusive possession of the rooms for a term at a rent and that the necessary legal consequence was that she became in law a tenant.

Reliance was placed on *Street v Mountford* ([1985] 1 AC 809, 817) per Lord Templeman.

But the facts of Mrs Taylor's case fell precisely into the position described by Lord Justice Denning in *Errington v Errington* ([1952] 1 KB 290, 298) that ". . . if the circumstances and the conduct of the parties show that all that was intended was that the occupier should be granted a personal privilege, with no interest in the land, he will be held to be a licensee only".

A person selected as an almsperson became a beneficiary under the trust of the charity and enjoyed the privilege of occupation of rooms as a beneficiary. It was immaterial that Mrs Taylor paid a weekly sum towards the cost of maintenance. The judge had reached the right conclusion.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that when the trustees granted an almsperson a right of occupation there existed between them the relationship of trustee and beneficiary. It was only by reason of that relationship that the trustees had the power to grant the right.

But the power did not allow them to grant a right which would or might infringe the objects of the charity by permitting the grantee to remain in occupation after he or she had ceased to qualify as a beneficiary.

On that analysis it was clear that the almsperson's occupation was referable to a legal relationship other than a tenancy and one which could only be characterised as a licence. It therefore fell outside the general category of cases identified in *Street v Mountford*.

Lord Justice Mummery agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Russell Campbell; Greenwoods, Peterborough.

Meaning of 'loose soil'

Lovett v Bussey

Before Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Sullivan

[Judgment April 3]

The phrase "loose soil" in section 8(5)(a) of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 was to be construed in the same context as the words "untainted straw or hay, or leaf-litter, bracken". Within that legal context whether soil so used came within the definition was a question of fact.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held dismissing an appeal by way of case stated of Richard Lovett against the dismissal of his appeal at Swindon Crown Court (Mr Recorder James Tabor, QC and justices) on April 24, 1997 from his conviction before Wootton Bassett Justices on May 9, 1996 on a charge brought by Philip Bussey of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, of interfering with a badger sett contrary to section 3 of the 1992 Act.

Section 3 of the 1992 Act provides: "A person is guilty of an offence if, except as permitted by or under this Act, he interferes with a badger sett by doing any of the following things . . . (c) obstructing access to, or any entrance of, a badger sett. . ."

Section 8 provides: "(4) A person is not guilty of an offence under section 3 . . . (c) . . . by reason of obstructing any entrance of a badger sett for the purposes of hunting foxes with hounds if he — (a) takes no action other than obstructing such entrances . . . (c) complies with subsection (5) below as to the materials used for obstructing the entrances and with subsection (6) below as to how and when they are to be placed and removed. . .

"(5) The materials used shall be only — (a) untainted straw or hay, or leaf-litter, bracken or loose soil; . . .

"(6) The materials shall not be packed hard into the entrances. . ."

Mr David Williams for Mr Lovett; Mr Noel Sweeney for Mr Bussey.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE said that the sole question for the court was whether the soil Mr Lovett, an employee of The Vale of the White Horse hunt, had used to stop up the sett was "loose soil".

The purpose of sections 8(4) to (9) of the Act was to allow for fox hunts to stop up badger setts to prevent them being used by foxes during a hunt without affecting the badgers' ability to use the hole.

The other materials permitted by section 8(5)(a) were light, readily removable and not permanently of an obstructive character. The learned recorder was therefore correct to conclude that loose soil was ejusdem generis with the other materials named in that section.

Within that context whether soil was "loose" was a question of fact. The phrase was not apt to describe the "spit-sized lumps of clay" which the trial court found as a fact had been used to stop up some of the entrances to the sett.

His Lordship rejected the arguments of Mr Williams that hunts could not reasonably be required to bring loose soil with them in order to stop up setts.

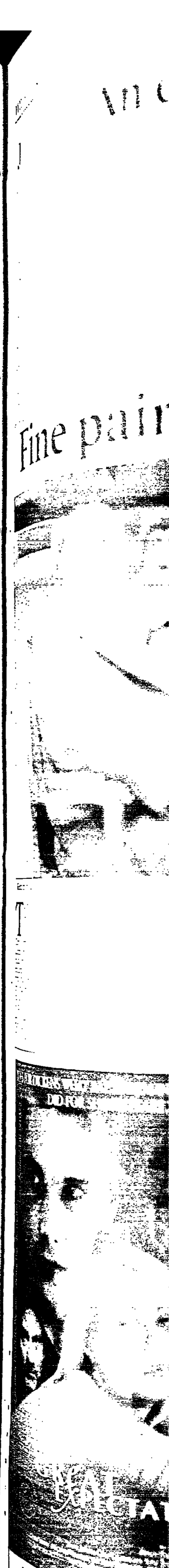
Where a clay-based local soil was used it had to be sufficiently broken up before being placed at the entrance so that it did not form a compacted structure.

Whether an offence was committed where initially loose soil failed to remain uncompacted would depend on the circumstances in which the soil was placed over the entrance to the sett.

Mr Justice Sullivan agreed.

Solicitors: Knights, Tunbridge Wells; Guy James & Co, Malvern.





هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

An eternal turf war in the cloisters

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

Just as you will never meet a poor dentist, so you will never encounter a humble cathedral organist. Perhaps a certain megalomania comes from blasting out hymns day after day on the world's loudest musical instruments. Perhaps an incurable loftiness is fostered by a lifetime spent sitting high above everyone else in the noblest buildings in Britain. But for whatever reason, the cathedral organists I have met have been, on the whole (and no offence, chaps), smug egotists.

So I can imagine that dealing with Dr Martin Neary — not just any cathedral organist, but the maestro of Westminster Abbey, a position once held by Henry Purcell, no less — may have been a wearying task for the Dean of Westminster, Dr Wesley Carr. Particularly since Carr, something of an iron fist in a velvet cassock, does not himself seem to overflow with the milk of human kindness.

Nevertheless, the sacking of Neary on Wednesday was a sad day not only for the abbey, but for all who take pride in Anglican music. The accusation is that Neary had set up a company without the abbey's knowledge to handle the choir's lucrative extra-mural activities. That does not seem very disgraceful or particularly unusual. Our top cathedral and chapel choirs are world-class musical institutions — among the last that we possess — and they rightly see it as their Christian mission, as well as their path to financial stability, to disseminate their virtuosity as widely as possible. And they are excellent ambassadors. The standard of singing at the Princess of Wales's funeral, supervised by Neary, did more to raise global esteem for British music than the Arts Council has done in 50 years.

This week, by coincidence, I also received a statement from an international music agency announcing that it has signed an "exclusive world management" deal with the choir of King's College, Cambridge. These deals go on all the time. The reality is that if the Church wants to retain top-class musicians, it must give them freedom to trade on their positions and supplement their meagre salaries.

Of course clerics since time immemorial have chafed at this practice. Purcell himself was disciplined by the abbey when he sold tickets for grandstand views from the organ loft during the 1689 Coronation. He argued, just as Neary has done, that it was an accepted perk of the job.

But when I said that Wednesday was a sad day for Anglican music, I was looking beyond the petty and spiteful civil wars of Westminster Abbey. The fact is that the heritage of English church music — that wonderful repertoire stretching through Purcell, Byrd and Tallis back to the dawn of polyphony — could easily be squeezed out of the Anglican Church, just as the Roman Catholic Church has shamefully allowed its magnificent choral masterpieces to wither away through neglect.

Already the "traditional" choir has been banished from many English parish churches, its repertoire ridiculed as elitist. That has left the famous cathedral and Oxbridge choirs dangerously isolated. Soon, no doubt, the generation of clerics that favours infantile "happy-clappy" choruses will graduate into senior positions in cathedrals, and the same cultural purge will be instigated there.

What has happened at the abbey — a classic turf war with a cleric imposing authority over what he regards as an uppity organist — has happened in hundreds of parish churches over the past decade, and as a result the Anglican Church has lost many fine musicians. The events of this week won't make talented young singers or instrumentalists any keener to work in sacred music. A centuries-old tradition of sublime excellence could crumble in the twinkling of an eye.

Strangest news of the week? It is surely that Frederick Forsyth, suave purveyor of exhaustingly detailed thrillers such as *The Day of the Jackal*, is to work with Andrew Lloyd Webber on a sequel to Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*. "Andrew's superb musical left us with an enigma," says Forsyth, by way of justification. "Whatever happened to the Phantom and Christine?"

My dear old Freddie, what codswallop. If you start wondering "what happened next" to characters in musicals you would have more enigmas to crack than MI5 in the Second World War. Does anyone imagine, for instance, that lovely Salvation Army girl Sarah Brown lives happily ever after with dissolute Sky Masterson, once the curtain falls on *Guys and Dolls*? Or that feisty Eliza Doolittle tolerates bossy Professor Higgins for five minutes after the end of *My Fair Lady*? Of course not. But why break the spell of a magical musical by projecting the plot beyond the point at which the fantasy dissolves?

Still, it's fun to imagine what Freddie will make of *Phantom II*. The hint is that Christine will be relocated to New York and given a child. That sounds a bit dull for Freddie. Anybody who has read vintage Forsyth will sense that Christine probably joins a Bolivian terrorist group intent on destabilising the international teddy-bear market by blowing up the world's only woolly-ears factory.

Meanwhile, the Phantom will have hijacked an oilrig, using veterans from the Great Cabbage War of Schleswig-Holstein, and threatened to beach it in the Serpentine unless his gay lover is freed from internment in a neo-Nazi cream egg. Oh yes, and the big chorus will be a step-by-step guide to making atomic bombs out of paper clips and an MCC tie.

I am sure that Lord Lloyd-Webber will rise to the lyrical challenge with his usual dexterity.

Fine pair of old luvvies

DONALD COOPER



Kept in the dark: Gary Waldhorn, David Tennant, Nichola McAuliffe, Desmond Barrit and Anna Chancellor in Peter Shaffer's *Black Comedy*

THEATRE

The Real Inspector Hound / Black Comedy

Comedy

The mystery is why this suave pairing has never been attempted before. Not only do Tom Stoppard's spoof whodunnit and Peter Shaffer's treacherous shenanigans both brilliantly exploit theatrical forms, the Stoppard famously involving critics in the play they are reviewing, and the Shaffer switching light and dark, but each has the same number and gender distribution of characters: 5m, 3f, as the am-dram brochures put it.

Both plays are funny as well as intricately ingenious, though Stoppard's *Hound* proceeds with less of a whirl than I remember from previous sightings. Greg Doran's direction of it is curiously stodgy, and he and Robert Jones (designer) make a serious mistake in placing Birdboot and Moon, the two critics, in seats at the back of the stage gazing at the play both they and we are watching. This arrangement would hardly matter if the cast of the fearful sub-Christie thriller in front of them faced their direction but no, these actors are facing us, with their backs to the critics, and the necessary sense of credibility, however bizarre, vanishes.

Desmond Barrit's lecherous Birdboot and David Tennant's pretentious Moon, a No 2 enviously obsessed with his No 1, are engagingly caricatured portraits of our brotherhood, their murmuring comments punctuating the strange events that unfold at Lady Cynthia Muldoon's isolated country manor. But though the dialogue for this now mercifully outmoded genre of mystery play is suitably absurd, *Hound* is more than a kick at a dying breed. Once Birdboot and Moon are lured into the events on stage the play reveals itself to be a genuine psychological drama of frustration and revenge, relevant to the aspirations of second-stringers everywhere.

This is likely to keep Stoppard's play alive when *The Mousetrap* is finally forgotten, and it seeems to me that Shaffer's play also has the capacity to survive the centuries, even when the in-your-face Sixties costumes look far quainter than they must today. The dramatic conceit here was adapted by Shaffer from a famous Peking Opera sketch where two men, fighting a duel in the dark, are shown in full light. His two-timing artist's attempts to impress a visiting connoisseur, as well as his fiancée's crusty father, collapse into confusion when his flat is plunged into total darkness by an electric fuse.

The trick is that we only see the actors after the fuse blows, and the resulting comedy, often uproarious, derives from watching their ungainly fumbling, the hair's-breadth escapes from disaster and the tension of waiting for one particular calamity to occur. Here again, the play contains what Moon would swiftly identify as a subtext: people's concealments are revealed in the dark, and Tennant's lean, louche Brindsley has his cowardice exposed for all to recognise.

Doran's direction now finds excellent fun in the traps and near-misses that bemuse Shaffer's cast: the handbag caught by a chair leg and released by the accident of an outstretched hand, Gary Waldhorn's disastrous encounter with a rocking chair, and — comedy revealing pain — Nichola McAuliffe's twittery spinster betrayed by furtive drinking.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Tuesday's child needs a lift

COMEDY

Life imitates art, so no sooner do we get used to pin-up girl Gayle Tuesday's brassy witterings on the mysteries of life and love than along comes Ginger Spice. The big difference, of course, is that while one receives hugs from Nelson Mandela, the other has to make do with a bawdy night out at High Wycombe Town Hall in Buckinghamshire.

For those who have not yet collided with her well-upholstered cleavage, Brenda Gilhooley's shopworn former glamour model is a C-cup, C-list celebrity. Armed with indomitable energy, unrelenting ambition and a near-total lack of self-awareness, Tuesday doggedly pursues her quixotic dream of reinventing herself as an all-round entertainer.

Stranger characters have been known to appear in the pages of *Hello!* magazine. The girl may think that the Oedipus Complex is some sort of shopping centre, but there is no denying her chutzpah.

Braying into the microphone and modelling her bright red underwear on the outside of her skimpy dress (the smalls also light up in the dark, as she demonstrated), Tuesday expounds her philosophy in shrill sound-bites.

It is, as you might suspect, something of a one-joke show. Just as we hear less about the exploits of Essex Girls today, so the dyed-blonde routine and the sex and shopping chat look a little dog-eared now.

But Gilhooley has put together a punchy script, and sensibly keeps the performance short and crisp. There were some surprisingly dry one-liners concealed amid the broader doubles entendres.

When she is at her most arch, Tuesday's piercing voice takes on echoes of Kenneth Williams. By the end, though, the impression lingers that the act needs to be developed further now.

CLIVE DAVIS

Little and large

CONCERT

Simon Rattle's concerts with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment are always red-letter events, but no amount of past experience could have prepared one for the impact of his Mozart, Berlioz and Beethoven programme at the Festival Hall on Wednesday. Like the best period performances, when the instruments are not an end in themselves but a way of discovering things afresh, this made one hear three works all written between 210 and 170 years ago as if they were new.

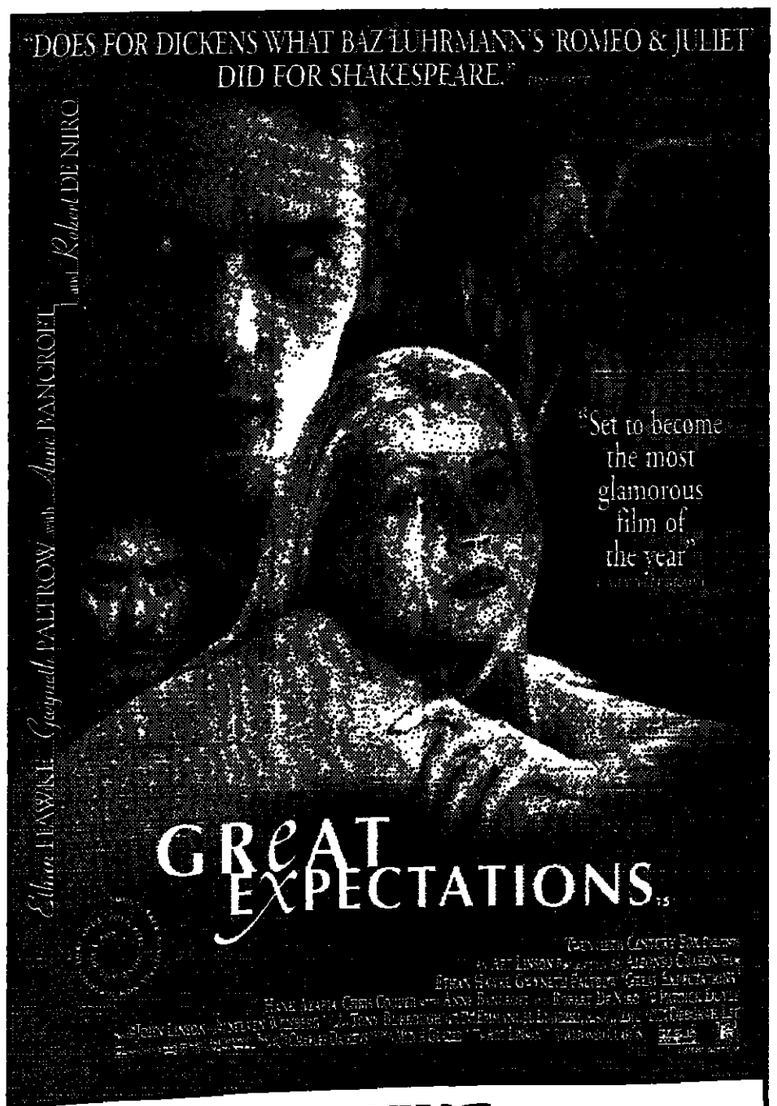
Paradoxically, the sound of these instruments may be smaller but their emotional range can be bigger. Mozart's Symphony No 39 in E flat, which opened the concert, had moments of both rare serenity and unusually dark drama; Rattle also stressed the mystery of the Adagio introduction, and was at his most dynamic in the exciting finale.

But it was Beethoven's Seventh that really held the audience on the edge of its collective seat. The suspense of the opening was almost unbearable, and what followed was no less striking as the music broke into a pastoral dance, led by purling flutes, and gradually gathered wild urgency. The Allegretto boiled over into real despair, and the orchestra was on cracking form in a daring finale.

Berlioz's cantata *La Mort de Cléopâtre* made an appropriate centrepiece. Few other composers have benefited so much from period treatment, for conventional performances temper things like the startling originality of Berlioz's orchestration depicting the serpent's bite, the flowing poison and Cleopatra's faltering heartbeat. Ann Murray had strong presence as the fallen queen.

JOHN ALLISON

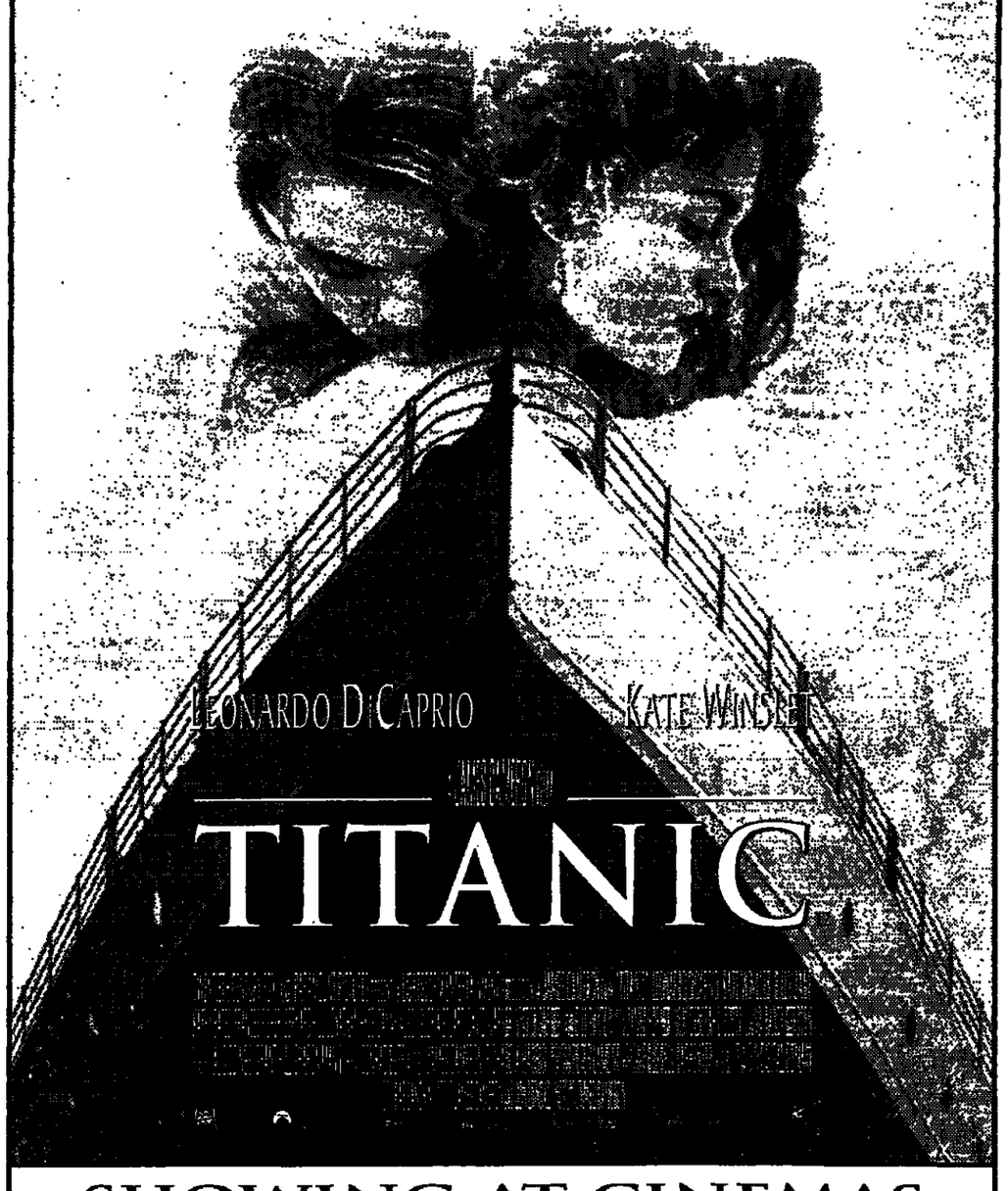
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SHOWING AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Overpaid and overexposed? Not over here

Britain and America are, it seems, two nations divided by a common music. **Nigel Williamson** investigates

At the end of last year the American band Matchbox 20 were in London to play a "showcase", one of those record industry events where they don't sell tickets but parade a new act before an invited audience of music journalists who are then liberally plied with free drink in the cause of generating some favourable press.

Outside the 100 Club in Oxford Street, though, eager Americans tourists were recklessly outbidding each other with offers of £50 and upwards for a spare Matchbox 20 ticket. It seemed an astonishing phenomenon for a completely unknown act which at the time had not released a record in Britain. But across the Atlantic, Matchbox 20 are far from unknown. Their debut album, *Yourself or Someone Like You*, has sold more than four million copies, occupying the upper reaches of the *Billboard* chart for more than a year. It also saw them voted best new band in the influential *Rolling Stone* poll, leaving British dance champions the Prodigy trailing in third place.

In the tiny 100 Club Matchbox 20 performed a dynamic set of guitar-driven rock full of songs that trace their lineage back to artists such as the Band. It wasn't cutting edge and there were no samples or digitalised beats; just a reliance on the traditional values of melodic songs, gutsy harmonies and robust guitars. It was a refreshing contrast to the increasingly grandiose and portentous efforts of the Verve, Radiohead and the other high-minded leaders of the current British scene.

The position of Matchbox 20, whose album has now been belatedly released in Britain, is far from unique. Over the summer the major labels are planning a promotional blitz in an attempt to break some of the big American acts who have so far failed to ignite here. Next month sees a fresh push behind the Dave Matthews Band, whose albums regularly sell three or four million copies in America but have made little impact in Britain, despite an appearance at the Glastonbury Festival in 1995. This time the record label hopes that the presence of Alanis Morissette on *Don't Drink the Water*, the first single from the forthcoming album, *Before these Crowded Streets*, may finally do the trick.

There will also be interest in whether the Wallflowers, led by the well-connected Jakob Dylan, can break through in Britain. The band has far outsold Dylan senior's recent comeback album in America, where their *Bring Down the Horse* is only now slipping down the charts after a stay of almost two years. Other than mild interest in Jakob's parentage, the Wallflowers have barely registered here.

Hootie and the Blowfish sold a mind-boggling 14 million American copies of their album *Cracked Rear View*, but the best they achieved in Britain was a single that charted for one week at No 75. A new album later this year will give them another crack.

> "To the British these bands sound dated"

There have always been obvious differences between British and American tastes — witness our longstanding resistance to the twangy guitars and nasal voices of country music. But it seems that the gulf has recently become a yawning chasm. Bands such as Matchbox 20, Hootie, Dave Matthews and the Wallflowers would once have been revered by British audiences. So what has happened?

Lee-Ellen Newman, who as head of press at EastWest Records has responsibility for breaking both Hootie and Matchbox 20, says that radio makes a crucial difference: "In America there are college and alternative stations creating a groundswell of support. You also get regional breakouts. For example Hootie started in the Midwest and there was a domino effect. That just doesn't happen here."

Jonathan King, still one of the sharpest trendspotters in the business, says: "On the surface the gulf has never been greater. But there's a huge market for these acts among people who are fed up with pop and not interested in rap and who think there hasn't been any intelligent rock music since the 1960s.

"But radio and television will not give any exposure to good American rock music. The Matchbox 20 album is a great example and the new Dave Matthews album is sensational — there won't be a better record this year."

Bob Harris, the former *Old Grey Whistle Test* presenter who now has a show on Radio 2, fears that the difference has been exacerbated by a British obsession with trends at the expense of traditional musical values. "I'm a huge Matchbox 20 fan and I play the album on the radio all the time," he says. "It's a very good time for American music, as strong as I can remember. There is a fabulous range of bands but two things account for our resistance. First, we are fashion-led and fashions change so fast. Secondly, these American acts remain very song-based and we are not. We seem to like our music deconstructed, a little off-centre and even disharmonic."

To some these are simply the views of old fogies who have not come to terms with the passing of the 1960s. Allan Jones, the former editor of *Melody Maker* and now editor of the monthly *Uncut*, says: "It is all impeccably arranged and beautifully played, but the music scene has changed post-rave culture. American audiences like something safe and predictable. To the British these bands sound old-fashioned and dated."

Newman sees no reason why Matchbox 20 should not succeed here, though. "They have all the elements of a great rock band," she says. "The songs are strong, they are great musicians and they are tremendous live."

And if they still don't make it? After a temporary dent to their pride, Matchbox 20, Dave Matthews and their compatriots will no doubt go back to their Midwestern heartlands and happily sell another ten million albums. And the loss will be entirely ours.

● *Yourself or Someone Like You by Matchbox 20 is released by EastWest. Don't Drink the Water by the Dave Matthews Band is released next month by RCA*



Matchbox 20 — from left, Kyle Cook, Brian Yale, Rob Thomas, Adam Gaynor and Paul Doucette. But then, you already knew that, didn't you?

Hey fans, let's boogie

BLUES ALBUMS

There are some collections which, if they were sticks of seaside rock, would have the word essential written all the way through them. A case in point is the two volumes of piano blues, boogies and rags issued by Yazoo and compiled by the world's leading authority on piano blues, Francis Wilford-Smith. As a young man he travelled to America where he saw such boogie greats as **Meade Lux Lewis** and **Albert Ammons**. He also started building up an impressive collection of blues piano records when most people thought the only use for an old 78 was as a plant pot.

Now, after issuing some of his collection on vinyl, he has had the chance to compile what will be a 22-volume set of classic sides from the Twenties and Thirties. *Shake Your Wicked Knees* (Yazoo 2035) gives some indication of what is in store, with some of the finest boogie music ever put on record, including **Lewis's** original *Honky Tonk Train Blues*, **Pine Top Smith's** *Pine Top's Boogie Woogie*, **Cow Cow Davenport's** *Cow Cow Blues* and *Head Rag Hop* by **Romeo Nelson.**

Mama Don't Allow No Easy Riders Here (Yazoo 2034) is slightly raggier (in style rather than substance), with tracks by **Turner Parrish, Blind Leroy Garnett** and **Speckled Red** among others. These are both sets which should form part of any self-respecting blues fan's collection.

Two more collections, this time on Ace records, move us forward 20 or 30 years to a time when there were hundreds of small labels trying to find a piece of the action in the crowded rhythm and blues market.

The fascinating sleeve notes to *The Domino Records Story* (Ace CDCHD 506) reveal that it was a label formed in Austin, Texas, in the Fifties by a group of businessmen and women who had just attended a seminar called "How To Market A Song". They each put in five dollars a week to run the label and came up with a moderate hit — *You Cheated* by the **Slades** — as well as a run of singles by the **Daylighters** who were fronted by present-day blues star **Sonny Rhodes.**

The Frisco Records Story (Ace CDCHD 679) — a New Orleans label despite its name — comes from that intriguing period in the early Sixties when rhythm and blues was turning into soul, and features crossover artists such as **Danny White** and the **Rouzan Sisters**, who were big names on the label's home turf but not necessarily much of an attraction elsewhere. But that doesn't stop it from being great Crescent City music, which is at last getting a wider hearing.

JOHN CLARKE

A home-grown to equal the imports

JAZZ ALBUMS

TUBBY HAYES QUINTET
Late Spot at Scott's/ Down in the Village
(Redial CD 558 183-2/558 184-2)
IN THE so-called UK "jazz renaissance" of the mid-1980s, young lions must have become heartily sick of the older generation pointing out that world-class British jazz was not a recent invention. Tubby Hayes (1935-73) was always among those first cited in this argument, so the choice of these two 1962 live quintet albums to launch Polygram's UK-jazz reissue series is particularly felicitous.

Sharing frontline duties with Scottish trumpeter Jimmy Deuchar, and leading a rhythm section comprising pianist Gordon Beck, bassist Freddy Logan and drummer Allan Ganley, Hayes proves himself a wonderfully fluent tenorman, especially effective on the hard-bop material he favoured, and an excellent vibes player to boot. Deuchar, a poised but fiery soloist, could also hold his own with the best contemporary American equivalents, and these wholly enjoyable albums would make perfect "blindfold" tests for those who still claim otherwise.

JOE MANERI
Paniots Nine
(Avant AVAN 067)
HAILED as "one of the greatest 20th-century clarinettists" by Ran Blake and simply as "a genius" by both Paul Bley and George Russell, reedsman Joe Maneri is still something of a well-kept secret, even among fans of his usual musical area, free jazz.

This album, the bulk of it recorded as a demo for Atlantic in 1963, showcases Maneri's extraordinary mix of klezmer (in which he anticipates John Zorn and Don Byron by more than two decades), Greek dance music and free improvisation in a series of intriguing quartet outings, and culminates in a live duo performance with pianist Greg Silberman, in which Maneri delights a vociferous crowd by lacing Jewish traditional music with blues and unfettered jazz improvisation. Maneri has to be heard — even in this relatively poor-quality sound — to be believed.

CHRIS PARKER

Out of sight, outtasight

LIVE GIG

Massive Attack
Southampton

So much hysterical praise has been heaped on Massive Attack that it is miraculous how studiously low-key they have remained during their decade-long career. Preferring to sidestep the limelight by using guest vocalists and elegantly faceless record sleeves, this Bristol trio are rightly lauded as founding fathers of a distinctly British form of multi-racial soul music which clothes solemnly whispered raps in brooding, bluesy, bruise-coloured melodies.

Although often labelled a dance act, all three core members are non-dancers, while the textured reggae rhythms they favour are generally slowed down to a somnambulant pace. This is party music for depressives and film noir fans.

The current press angle on Massive Attack is that the three can no longer stand each other and will probably never make another record together. But this seems too neat an extrapolation from the dark, churning undertow of their magnificent new album *Mezzanine*, especially since their Southampton Guild Hall show on Wednesday demonstrated a condition as close to harmony as they have yet attained.

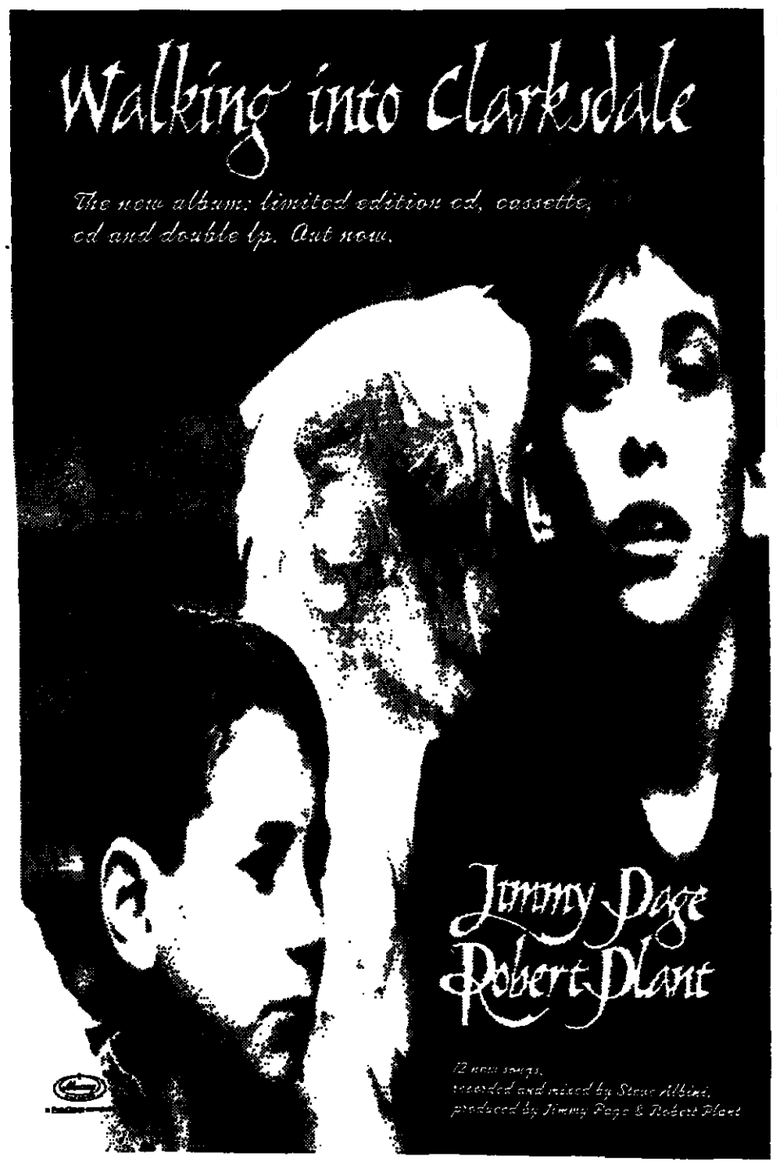
With a highly professional backing band and a dazzling arsenal of lights behind them, the elusive threesome contrived to marginalise their own involvement for much of the performance. Indeed, they were barely present at all for their most celebrated anthems, *Hymn For The Big Wheel* and *Unfinished Sympathy*, sung respectively by reggae veteran Horace Andy and soul siren Deborah Miller.

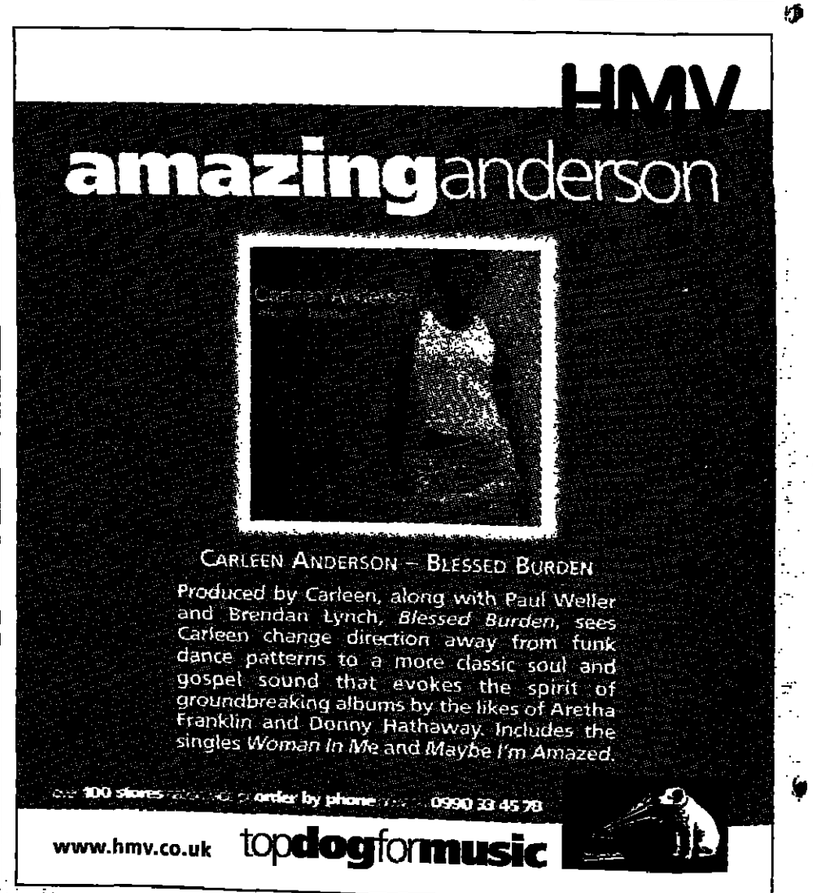
When they grudgingly tackled vocal duties in person, 3D (Robert Del Naja) and Daddy G (Grant Marshall) either lurked in deep shadows or basked in blinding light. Mushroom (Andrew Vowles) favoured an even more introverted approach which involved hovering at the back of the stage looking uneasy.

It did not detract one iota from the power of Massive Attack's music. Diversity is their current trump card, blending live instrumentation with samples and looped beats. This allowed such menacingly sombre chants as *Risingson* and *Karmacoma* to sit comfortably alongside the celestial whoops and sobs of their new single, *Teardrop*, or the avant-garde metallic polyrhythms of *Group Four*.

With liberal use of heavily processed guitars which recalled both U2 and Radiohead, Massive Attack reclaimed their punk roots and staked their claim to be future stadium rock stars. Whether they implode before hitting such heights is a moot point, but it would be a shame to give up now.

STEPHEN DALTON





Let's hear it from the underdog

NEW POP ALBUMS

MARCY PLAYGROUND
Marcy Playground
(Capitol 7243 8 53569 £12.49)
AMERICAN pop groups tend to be either hopelessly crass or utterly cool, with very little middle ground dividing the two extremes. The crass ones have a burger-chain mentality, churning out songs in precisely calibrated chunks that conform to a carefully researched formula. The cool ones often give their music a similar mass-market sheen, but they bring an outsider's mentality to the task, applying an oddball spin to lyrics and tunes in a way which suggests that they know better.

Marcy Playground, who have already sold a million copies of their self-titled debut album in America, are cool. A trio from Minneapolis (always a good start), they are led by a singer, guitarist and songwriter called John Wozniak, who apparently spent much of his childhood at that city's Marcy Open School hiding from bullies in a classroom overlooking the playground.

If the story is true, what better source of inspiration for a collection of songs which conjure a wistful mood of schoolyard nostalgia tinged with a slight but persistent air of anxiety. "I had so much time to sit and think about myself," Wozniak sings on the bewitching single, *Sex and Candy*, his voice pitched in that slightly nasal, nerdish tone that has worked wonders for contemporaries such as Eels and Fountains of Wayne.

With influences ranging from subtle shades of Nirvana on *Saint Joe on the School Bus* to the Beatles on *A Cloak Of Elvenkind*, Marcy Playground combine timeless musical craft with a gently disaffected pop style that is very much of the moment. They can come out of hiding now, with heads held high.

JOE ELY
Twistin' in the Wind
(MCA Nashville UMD 80488 £15.99)
"WANDERING isn't fun — it's colourful misery," Joe Ely declared as long ago as 1981. Yet the Texan singer and songwriter, now turned 50, remains one of those performers for whom life on the highways of the American South still beckons, his songs a dusty distillation of country, Tex-Mex, blues, rock, western swing and flamenco.

Again showcasing the talents of Lloyd Maines on steel guitar and dobro, and the outstanding Spanish guitarist

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CARLEEN ANDERSON
Blessed Burden
(Circa/Virgin CIRCD35 £15.99)
THE daughter of singer Vicki Anderson and pianist Bobby Byrd, and formerly a member of British acid jazz crew the Young Disciples, Carleen Anderson is a soul singer whose credentials are unimpeachable even before you hear the wonderfully supple tone of her voice on *Blessed Burden*, her second solo album.

But as the album unfolds, the personality of her music tends to become overshadowed by the contributions of her collaborators, in particular Paul Weller, who plays on a majority of the tracks and co-wrote *Burnin' Bridges* and *I'm Gonna Miss You*.

At times it almost sounds like a Weller album by proxy — no bad thing in itself, although purists are unlikely to be impressed. Certainly when she tackles Paul McCartney's *Maybe I'm Amazed* and Van Morrison's *Who was that Masked Man*, the effect is more akin to the rock crossover soul of Leon Russell and Joe Cocker than the real thing.

ROYAL TRUX
Accelerator
(Domino WIGCD45 £14.99)
PROFESSIONAL hooligan-bohemians Jennifer Herrema and Neil Hagerty have been responsible for some of the most depraved rock'n'roll ever committed to disc, and the New York pair are plainly not in any mood to start cleaning up their act.

Accelerator, Royal Trux's seventh album, is a seething cauldron of squawking guitars, distorted drums, occasional distraught harmonica and the hideously mangled vocals of Hagerty and Herrema, struggling to hit the notes on not-quite-there garageband songs such as *Yellow Kid* and *Juicy, Juicy, Juice*. Like a funfair ride, it is all grossly over the top, mercifully brief and perversely exhilarating.

DAVID SINCLAIR

TOP TEN ALBUMS

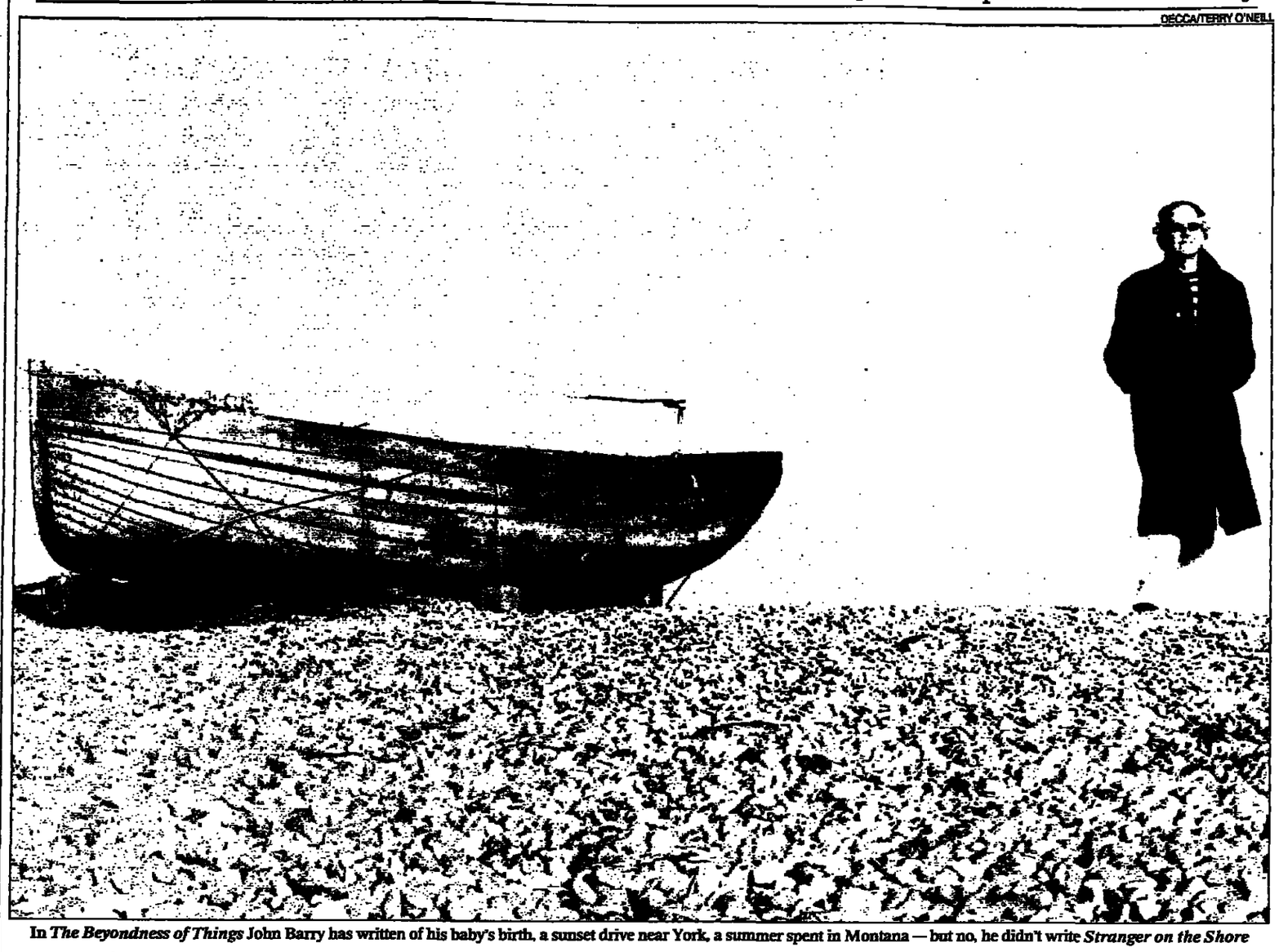
1	(–)	Mezzanine	Massive Attack (Virgin)
2	(1)	Life Thru a Lens	Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)
3	(2)	Let's Talk About Love	Celine Dion (Epic)
4	(3)	The Best of	James (Fontana)
5	(4)	Titanic Soundtrack	James Horner (Sony Classical)
6	(6)	Urban Hymns	Verve (Hut)
7	(8)	In My Life	George Martin (Echo)
8	(5)	Ray of Light	Madonna (Maverick)
9	(41)	Essentials	George Benson (Warner ESP/Jive)
10	(–)	Walking into Clarksdale	Page and Plant (Mercury)

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● Figure in brackets denotes last week's position

He has written the themes for countless films, but now John Barry has composed his own history

DECCA/TERRY O'NEILL



In *The Beyondness of Things* John Barry has written of his baby's birth, a sunset drive near York, a summer spent in Montana — but no, he didn't write *Stranger on the Shore*

Shaken and stirred by life

John Barry sits in the bar of the Langham Hotel, opposite the BBC, delicately sipping a champagne cocktail. Already you know he's dead classy: most associate champagne with it being free at weddings and birthdays, and neck it down in burpy, giggly gulps. But all silk suit and fabulously at ease, John Barry sips.

"Most barmen mess this one up," he says, gesturing to a newly delivered glass, which has a sugar cube caught in a halo of furious bubbles halfway down. "But he makes them just so. And when you find them this good, you feel like celebrating. I should be celebrating, anyway. I'm being" — *he tries to stop a self-deprecating smile between pursed lips* — "inducted into the American Hall of Songwriting next week. Me and Fats Domino on the same night."

His voice — Yorkshire with the occasional American vowel — is cello-low and wonderfully rumbly: like a bonsai thunderstorm in a fat brass pot. When he speaks, you can actually feel it vibrating in your ribs.

"When will I be *knighted?*" He stares for a second, before starting to shake silently. The occasional, booming cronk informs you that this is a John Barry Laughing Moment. "*Naaaaaaaaah.*" He cronks again. "Knighted? Can you imagine?" He goes into his impression of the Queen. "Sir John Barry. Thank you for the Bond themes. My sister enjoyed them very much. *Naaah.*"

Barry is in a mellow, slightly giggly mood today; mainly because the talk is of the past. *The Beyondness of Things*, his new album, is a musical autobiography that looks back on a life lived so thrillingly and fulfillingly that the Museum of Mankind should display it in a large case.



CAITLIN MORAN

In the Sixties he was living in Cadogan Square, married to Jane Birkin and, as the composer of the Bond films' filthily iconoclastic scores, pretty much a living embodiment of James Bond himself. During the Seventies and Eighties he moved to Oyster Bay, New York, and scored *Born Free, Out of Africa, Chaplin, The Cotton Club*. Five muscular Oscars sit on his mantelpiece.

In 1996, when Barry was 61, his wife bore him a son and, as new, tiny Buddhas made of love tend to do, started him thinking about his life. When Decca Records rang him and asked him to record his first non-soundtrack album in more than 20 years, it took him six weeks to write what is, in every way possible, the album of his life. *The Beyondness of Things* is quite astonishing. The architecture of the melody soars over you, unstoppable and unflawed. There are moments of exquisite detail: *Gifts of Nature* has a violin passage that sounds like the moment of birth: a child's first cry is answered by its weeping, gasping, laughing mother.

A Childhood Memory documents an evening drive across the plain of York. When the Minster jumps up suddenly, bloodied in the setting sun, the nervy strings and implacable brass counterpoint illustrate a young child's fear and awe at something so old and immovable.

He had been thinking about the album for a long time, he says, taking another sip of champagne and stretching out along the sofa. "I've always liked the title; it seemed to encapsulate that wondering: why does this move me? Why does that scare me? Why does this uplift me? Why does this make me laugh like crazy? It's that beyondness of things that makes you react, and it's that beyondness of things I've tried to put here.

"*Meadows of Delight and Sadness* is about a summer I spent in Montana, which is physically one of the most spectacular places you'll ever see in your life," he continues, eager to explain an album he's obviously very proud of. "This is where one of the greatest Indian nations was, and Custer came in and wiped them out. And when I was there, I was thinking about what they'd be like if they were still there, if they'd been allowed to grow up as a nation. The cities they would have built, the music they would have made." He pauses. "When you go to these places, and stand on that land, you still get a feeling of futures and possibilities that have died."

For a man of 63, who is living to see how his music has profoundly influenced the past 30 years, it is quite astonishing that he is able to come back with an album that rivals his very greatest works. The same can't be said for his contemporaries: Paul McCartney, say, or Burt Bacharach. Or Barry's friend, George Martin. George Martin's last album — Jim Carrey singing *I Am The Walrus*, Phil Collins "extending" the drum solo on the *Abbey Road* medley, Goldie Hawn making a snorting pig noise in *Hard Day's Night* — was, well . . . what did Barry think?

"George is a wonderful man, a true gentleman, a gracious and talented man," Barry begins, staring at something very tiny and fascinating on the floor. There is a pause. "Someone the world would be a poorer place for losing."

Have you heard the album? A longer pause. "Yes." A monumental pause. He takes another sip of his champagne.

He looks up: his eyes are dancing. "But I hope that, when it's time for me to go, I'll know, and I'll go."

● The Beyondness of Things *is out on Monday on Decca*





LONDON

THE FAIRY QUEEN David Pountney's critically acclaimed production for English National Opera of Purcell's enchanting operatic interpretation of *A Midsummer Night's Tale* returns to the repertoire. The strong cast is headed by Yvonne Kelly as Titania and Thomas Randle as Oberon. Nicholas Kok conducts
Coliseum St Martin's Lane WC2 (0171-632 8300) Opens tomorrow, 7.30pm

PHOENIX DANCE COMPANY New artistic director Thea Barnes launches her first season with the company with four recent works from choreographers who are also new to Phoenix, kicking off proceedings is a piece by Mark Baldwin, followed by works by Dwight Rhoden, Stephon Dennis and a collaboration between Barnes herself and writer Sol B. River
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tomorrow-Wed. 7.45pm' mat Tue. 2.30pm

ORCHESTRE DE PARIS: In the first of two concerts here this Sunday (3.30pm) Frans Brüggen conducts France's finest in Mozart's *Jupiter Symphony* and Haydn's Symphony No 83 followed by the Cello Concerto in C, played by the outstanding Norwegian cellist Truls Mörk. In the evening (7.30pm) András Schiff directs the Philharmonia Orchestra from the piano in the first of two concerts dedicated to Mozart's six last piano concertos, opening with the three he wrote in the winter of 1785/86
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242)

A QUESTION OF MERCY The US cast from the Long Wharf Theatre of New Haven on an exchange visit with an acclaimed euthanasia play by David Rabe, author of *Hurlyburly*
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388) Opens tonight, 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until May 23

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

ELSEWHERE

BIRMINGHAM: Sir Simon Rattle returns to town to conduct the **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** in two symphonic masterpieces. Mozart's Symphony No 39 and Beethoven's Seventh. The acclaimed mezzo Ann Murray joins the noted period-instrument ensemble as soloist in a performance of Berlioz's dramatic aria *La mort de Cléopâtre*
Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 3333) Tonight, 8pm.



Yvonne Kelly stars as Titania at the ENO

CARDIFF Mark Wigglesworth, Tadaaki Otaka and Grant Llewellyn take turns with the baton in this concert celebrating the **BBC National Orchestra of Wales's** 70th birthday. A surprise programme promises favourite party pieces from each conductor
St David's Hall, The Hayes (01222 878444) Tonight, 7.30pm.

GLASGOW Iain Heggie's **Don Juan**, originally by Molière, is subtitled **The rise and fall of a sex god.** Expect strong language
Tron Theatre, 63 Trongate (0141-552 4267) Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm. Until May 2.

MANCHESTER A packed weekend at the ISCM festival features a concert tonight by the London Sinfonietta. James Wood conducts Britain's flagship contemporary music group in a programme which includes pieces by himself, Mauricio Kagel and Alexander Goehr. The musical festivities conclude with a grand finale tomorrow when the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Oliver Knussen performs music by Andrzej Panufnik and Simon Bainbridge followed by the world premiere of Elliott Carter's *Symphonia*. With Susan Bickley, mezzo
Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000). Both concerts are at 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: The Art of the Harley, (0171-638 8891) . . **Brunei:** Rupa Malaysia. A decade of Art. 1987-1997 (0171-323 6230) **Goethe Institute:** Berlin Photographs by Gerhard Ullmann(0171-594 0214) . . **National:** Henry Moore and the National Gallery (0171-747 2885) . . **National Portrait:** Edwardian Photographs (0171-306 0055) . **Royal Academy:** Icons and the rise of Moscow (0171-300 8000) . . **Serpentine:** Piero Manzoni (0171-402 6075) **Tate:** Pierre Bonnard (0171-887 8000) . . **V & A.** The Power of the Poster (0171-938 8349/8441)



DES JENSON

Christopher Bruce: "What we've just announced is the sort of repertory that maybe no other company in the world could do"

A birthday party lasting three years

Rambert Dance Company has made ambitious plans to rewrite its future, as **Allen Robertson** reports

The future starts now. The opening night of Rambert Dance Company's revival of *Cruel Garden* in Oxford on May 6 is the company's first bold step towards 2001. It marks the beginning of a three-year plan announced at a press conference yesterday. The whole package is designed to take Rambert, the country's longest established dance company, up to a grand celebration of its 75th anniversary.

High on the agenda is a newly expanded London presence. As a vivid symbol of that goal, Rambert has been invited to open the newly expanded, totally rebuilt Sadler's Wells Theatre in Islington on October 12. "It is incredibly flattering to be asked to open the theatre," says the company's artistic director, Christopher Bruce. "Sadler's Wells is an ideal house for us and I very much hope it will be our London base from now on. By opening the Wells we are, in a sense, staking our claim, forging a new link with the future. This is what we've been building towards."

If inaugurating the Wells were not significant enough in itself, Rambert will be back there at the beginning of November with a week of *Cruel Garden* performances. Add in a stint at the Peacock Theatre next May and you have three imminent London visits from a company which famously had to spend much of the mid-1990s on the road because there was no place available in the capital which struck Bruce as a venue worthy of his dancers.

Cruel Garden, created in close collaboration between Bruce and that counter-culture guru Lindsay Kemp, is a swirlingly dramatic, even surreal vision inspired by the vibrant, ultimately tragic life of the Spanish poet-playwright Federico García Lorca, whose centenary is being celebrated this year. Its evening-length sweep travels from a Madrid *corrida* to jangling Harlem nightspots. First staged in 1977, it is arguably the single most popular modern dance work ever created in this country.

Yet the return of this hugely successful work is but the tip of the iceberg. Bruce is planning to expand Rambert's repertory left, right and centre. "What we've just announced is the sort of repertory that maybe no other company in the world could do. It ranges from theatre-based pieces such as *Cruel Garden* to works from the new young ones to masterpieces from the established great ones. They're all there."

The "great ones" include Merce Cunningham who, at 78, remains one of the most creative artists in the world. His highly complex half-hour work *August Pace* will be added to the repertory next month and seen in London for the first time at Sadler's Wells. This reconfirms a continuing relationship with Cunningham, who choreographed *Touchbase* for Rambert under the company's previous artistic director, Richard Alston. If all goes according to plan, there will be a new Cunningham work added to the repertory in each of the seasons leading up to 2001.

Other works will also be imported from America. When the company arrives at the Peacock next May, the dancers will take on the challenge of Twyla Tharp's hyperkinetic, physically dazzling *The Golden Section*, danced to a propulsive score by David Byrne. For any company this work is like Daniel stepping into the lion's den; and Bruce is right when he insists that few others would be able to pull it off.

Also on tap to beef up the next three seasons are the first British work from Sweden's Mats Ek and a rapprochement with Siobhan Davies, who was Rambert's resident choreographer during the Alston years. "Right from the beginning," Bruce says, "from when I took over from Richard in 1994, I knew that I wanted his and Davies's work to be represented. You see, Rambert is all the passages that it has gone through, and that particular time was a very important one which needs to be a part of our overall picture."

Another forthcoming coup, which will mark the fulfilment of one of Bruce's long-time dreams, will be a new work from Jiri Kylian. Add on revivals of such Rambert hallmarks as Glen Tetley's *Pierrot Lunaire* (the work that made the dancer Christopher Bruce a star three decades ago) and you have a three-year plan that looks as if it has been dipped in gold before the ink has even dried.

Even so, Bruce is quick to point out that there is more to come. "What we've announced today is a base, a framework. So much more can be added and I'm particularly intent on developing new choreographic talent from within the company. But that doesn't arrive overnight. Art is an ongoing, living thing. It's never the same from night to night. That's its magic. The mystery of it all is something you can never fully understand, but that's why people keep coming to the theatre."

Real live people talking

According to a reader from Nottingham, I ought to be "doing something" about music policy on BBC radio, though I am not clear whether this means I ought to be writing some words about it or applying for an executive position at the BBC. I shall take the former route, albeit in a small way.

One of the matters raised by said reader is the "absence of programmes that sound risky, ie, live". Well now, here is a bone worth picking, for it is undoubtedly true that a great deal of BBC music output sounds as if it has been dragged through cobwebs on its way to the transmitter.

RADIO

There are some perfectly good reasons for this and some that are less convincing. I doubt that anyone listening to Radio 1 actually cares that most of what is played is on record or CD, but radio stations, and not just the BBC's, went seriously wrong when they decided that programmes that were not live need not even sound as if they were live. Too many radio programmes sound as if they have been engineered to within an inch of their lives.

If proof were needed that this need not be so, it arrived on Monday with **Jools Holland**, the eponymous new series featuring what the BBC calls the "musician, wit and raconteur". The series, Holland's first for radio, is not actually live but it has clearly been recorded with the minimum of engineering intervention. The result is a rare delight.

Holland brings to the show's studio only the rhythm section of his blues orchestra and the format is a couple of numbers each week from Holland and the group plus a wide range of recorded music, all linked together with anecdotes: thus a B.B. King tune is launched with a reminiscence about the time Holland played *Happy Birthday* for the great guitar player. The rhythm section (as rhythm sections do) chips in with various irreverent remarks and there is a running gag about the drummer, Gilson Lavis, who "lets his drums do the talking".

The style is beguilingly laid-back, and enough of the aimless elements have been left in the studio banter to make it seem like what it is: real people talking. Why cannot more radio be like this? I do not support the view that people shouting down the line from mobile telephones is anything but a senseless racket, but there is a middle way between football phone-in and programming that has had the life sanitised out of it.

PETER BARNARD

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

◪ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighten and Alasdair Harvey as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rossington
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm

□ **THE BULLET** Now Joe Penhall play set in a South London semi, where parents, two sons and a girl friend (Emily Woof) probe bitter secrets
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thur and Sat, 4pm. Until May 2.

□ **CAMINO REAL:** Tennessee Williams's weird old surrealistico-romantic play set at the end of everywhere. Steven Pimlott's cast from *Stratford* includes Peter Egan, Leslie Phillips, Bridget Turner, Susannah York
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363) Tonight, 7.15pm tomorrow, 2pm and 7.15pm. Final performance

■ **CHICAGO:** Revised version of the celebrated Kander & Ebb musical directed by Walter Bobbie. Starring Ruthie Henshall, Ute Lemper, Henry Goodman and Nigel Planer
Adelphi, Strand, WC2 (0171-344 0055) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

□ **CYMBELINE.** A heart-catching Imogen from Joanna Pearce is at the centre of Adrian Noble's fine and moving production. With Paul Freeman as Iachimo (a little lago) and Damian Lewis as Posthumus
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. In repertoire

□ **THE DAUGHTER OF THE POET:** Based on two of the Icelandic Sagas, this is the story of Thorgerd whose position as a great man's wife might have a surprising resonance today. Written and directed by Sveinn Einarsson, former director of the National Theatre of Iceland
Pleasance Theatre, 40 North Rd, N7 (0171-609 1800) Tue-Fri, 8pm, Sat 7.30pm; mat Sun, 5pm. Until May 9

□ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND:** Now in its fifth London theatre, Peter Hall's excellent production, brimful of deceptions. Starring Christopher Cazenove, Kate O'Mara, Simon Ward
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

□ **KAT AND THE KINGS:** Ebullient new 1950s rock'n'roll musical about a South African group that never quite existed
Vaudeville Theatre, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) Mon-Thur, 8pm; Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm.

◪ **NAKED:** Juliette Binoche now in the West End playing the traumatised Pirandello heroine. Transfer of Jonathan Kent's Almeida production.
Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (0171-839 4401) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3pm. Until May 30

□ **THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND/BLACK COMEDY** Inspired coupling of Stoppard's parody whodunnit and Shaffer's light-for-dark farce. Greg Doran's excellent cast includes Desmond Barrit, David Tennant, Nichola McAuliffe
Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . ◪ **Buddy:** Strand (0171-930 8800) . ◪ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) . ◪ **Grease:** Cambridge (0171-494 5080) ◪ **An Inspector Calls:** Garrick (0171-494 5085) . ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) □ **Smokey Joe's Cafe:** Prince of Wales (0171-839 5987) ◪ **Starlight Express,** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) □ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18). The Coen brothers' dishevelled spoof of Raymond Chandler's thrillers, very funny in spots, with Jeff Bridges, John Goodman and Julianne Moore
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **Odeon Camden Town** (0181-315 4256) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins Chelsea** (0870-907 0710) **Haymarket** (0870-907 0712) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

BODYCOUNT (18) Cast improves average thriller about an art robbery's aftermath. With Ving Rhames, David Caruso and Linda Fiorentino. Director, Robert Patton-Spruill
ABC Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

HAPPY TOGETHER (15) Edgy, lyrical film about love and longing from Hong Kong cult director Wong Kar-Wai. With Leslie Cheung and Tony Leung
Curzons: Minema (0171-369 1723) **Phoenix** (0171-369 1721) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **THE RAINMAKER** (15) Rookie lawyer (Matt Damon) fights a big insurance company. Moderately pleasing adaptation of John Grisham novel, from director Francis Ford Coppola. With Danny DeVito, Claire Danes
ABC Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279) **Empire** ◪ (0990 888990) **Plaza** ◪ (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins Fulham Road** (0870-907 0711) **Trocadero** ◪ (0870-907 0716)

◆ **MONEY TALKS** (15). Con artist and TV newsman join forces. Formula action fare given a little sparkle by stand-up comic Chris Tucker. With Charlie Sheen. Director, Brett Ratner
Virgin Trocadero ◪ (0870-907 0716)

U.S. MARSHALS (15)' Flat-footed sequel to *The Fugitive*, with Tommy Lee Jones in pursuit of suspected assassin Wesley Snipes. Director, Stuart Baird
Greenwich (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins Fulham Road** (0870-907 0711) **Trocadero** ◪ (0870-907 0716) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **U TURN** (18)' Lust, violence and greed in a small Arizona town. Outlandish, jaunty and jangling delight from director Oliver Stone. With Sean Penn, Nick Nolte and Jennifer Lopez
UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0870-907 0711) **Haymarket** (0870-907 0712) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (18). A writer's personal and professional life unravels. Fascinating, funny and unsettling Woody Allen film. Allen stars with the usual elite cast (Demi Moore, Billy Crystal, Elisabeth Shue)
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL** (15): New York journalist gets involved in a sensational Savannah murder trial. Absorbing character study, based on real life. Director, Clint Eastwood
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Virgins: Fulham Rd** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

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Soaps, the Play for Today for the Nineties

Soaps are now producing some of the most challenging drama on television, says **Carol Midgley**



BBC, CHANNEL 4, GRANADA

Nothing succeeds like excess: from *EastEnders*, *Brookside* and *Coronation Street*

Diehard fans of the soap opera will no doubt be too traumatised to read this article. True devotees may well be pondering a way to end it all or, at the very least, be booking their next session with a stress counsellor.

Life in soap land has been tense of late. Viewers have seen the death of a meningitis-stricken baby, a wrongful imprisonment, a confession of transsexualism, a surrogate pregnancy, a massive gas explosion (resulting in one dead sheepdog and a trapped child) and a narrowly averted leg amputation. And that is just in *Coronation Street* and *Brookside*.

Tonight *Coronation Street* will serve up another nailbiting episode when Steve McDonald and his father Jim unwisely have a fight while standing on some scaffolding. Steve lashes out with his fists and poor old Jim falls over the edge. We must hold our breath until Sunday to discover if he has survived.

The *Street* in particular has been criticised for betraying its roots and using sex and violence to boost ratings.

But with competition between the soaps fiercer than ever, producers now regularly lure viewers with one-hour specials or five-night cliffhangers — the latest being *Brookside*'s gas explosion.

It is an increasingly popular tactic, started by *Brookside* in the 1980s, which reached its finest hour three years ago with the trial of Beth and Mandy Jordache (Mandy had stabbed her husband and buried him under the patio.)

EastEnders followed last year with its first five-night special, based on Tiffany and Grant Mitchell in Paris. They have proved a scheduler's dream because programmes can be positioned around a guaranteed high audience every night.

Although *Coronation Street* has not yet gone five nights a week, Granada is not averse to the odd one-hour dramatic special (Alma Baldwin being driven into Salford Quays by crazed cabbie Don Brennan was the most recent example).

Jean Alexander, who played Hilda Ogden in *Coronation Street*, said recently that the programme had sacrificed its humour and credibility for short-term gain. "One of the reasons it has run for almost 40 years," she said, "is because it did not have sex and violence. It did not need to go this way."

Indeed, the Independent Television Commission is said to be planning to censure ITV for sensationalising family programmes such as *Coronation Street* and *Emmerdale* with too much sex and violence , when it presents its annual report to Parliament next month.

But such criticism ignores the fact that sensation is what the viewers want. Far from switching off in disgust, they are turning on in droves.

EastEnders, itself no stranger to red-hot storylines, soared to the top of the ratings chart this week as it emerged that 17 million viewers had tuned in to the hour-long Good Friday special in which Kathy Mitchell left the series, having just had affairs with her brother-in-law and the local vicar.

Brian Park, the once-vilified producer of *Coronation Street* who was accused of soiling a national treasure, seems to have the last laugh. The *Street* has led the ratings with storylines such as Hayley Patterson's revelation that, beneath her Bettabuys tunic, she is a really a man, and Deirdre Rachid's imprisonment, which won the support of Tony Blair in the campaign to free her.

Mal Young, now the BBC's head of drama series but who was with *Brookside* until recently, says specials boost the audience at little cost and also let the soaps show their dramatic quality.

"To be brutal about it, they are cheap because you already have the sets and the show up and running," he says. "We used to joke that it was a ruthless exercise in audience building. But these specials produce some of the finest drama on TV.

"You get to explore the characters in real depth in storylines that have been building up for three months. The scriptwriters rise to the challenge and the actors certainly do. It becomes a modern *Play For Today*."

But he added: "You have to be really careful — you can't just blow all your characters up like in a movie. When you have had planes crashing *[Emmerdale]* and bodies under the patio *[Brookside]*, you are not that far away from Martians landing. That is why it is sometimes better to have emotional explosions rather than actual ones."

Phil Redmond, the creator of *Brookside*, has now committed the show to a five-night special every quarter, such has been its success.

"Specials are great to pull in the audience but for us it came down to the frustration of seeing how much was being left on the cutting-room floor," he says.

"We broadcast two and a half hours on the Jordache trial, but we filmed four hours. What was left out was great stuff. We could have run ten nights on that trial."

Redmond says research has shown that the audience likes the five-night idea and that "stripping" — having the same type of programme on at the same time each evening — was the future of scheduling. "Most people dip in and out, rather than watching every episode. It is what the audience likes."

Brookside's next five-nighter is in September. Those of a nervous disposition have been warned.

Irish papers go for the peace plan



Raymond Snoddy

It is a truism that newspapers do not win elections, whatever their more grandiose claims. They may certainly amplify or accelerate a trend, sniff the air and jump on a passing bandwagon, or play a role in the creation of a public mood.

But usually there are far too many complex and interlocking issues in the mind of the electorate for a single effect to be isolated — for example the line taken by a newspaper. On single issues of historic importance, such as next month's vote on the Ulster agreement, the impact of newspapers could, however, be crucial — far more so than either television or radio.

Already the papers of Ireland, North and South, have distinguished themselves in highlighting the power of the moment and the significance of the choice facing voters. At the same time they have set out, in cold type, complicated issues to their readers. Unlike broadcasters, they have the ability to make up their minds and lead.

They are already showing signs of doing so in favour of an agreement that may contain unpalatable elements for both communities but which, overall, represents the best — probably only — chance of at least reducing the level of violence in a divided community. By comparison, broadcasters, who have an obligation to be impartial and balanced, often descend into an *Any Questions* world where all sides of the argument are on display and often the largest mouth putting forward the most unreasonable, inflammatory thoughts holds sway over the microphones.

The Rev Ian Paisley, accompanied by a couple of hundred noisy demonstrators, can, for instance, seem a potent force, when in fact he looks increasingly to be an isolated man of the far distant past. At their best, broadcasters can elaborate — but they can rarely provide leadership.

Right from the start, however, the newspapers of Ireland rose to the challenge of the peace agreement. On its front page, *The Irish Times* struck a suitable historic note with its headline — "Easter 1998" — in a knowing nod to another historic Easter, the Easter Rising of 1916.

What has been remarkable so far has been the near unanimity of the daily papers, whatever their political or community affiliation. *The Newsletter*, a traditionalist Unionist paper now owned by the Mirror Group — whose chief executive, David Montgomery, just happens to be an Ulster Unionist by background — argued that if all went well, their man David Trimble would not only find himself the leader of the Unionist people, but also the leader of the Province. "This is an opportunity to show that a Unionist leader can govern all the people of the Province and represent them fairly and equally," the paper argued.

The more ecumenical *Belfast Telegraph* was also very positive. "The potential and promise of a new era for our divided communities is staring us in the face. All we need is the will and courage to take it," it wrote.

The Irish News, which represents the democratic nationalist community in Northern Ireland, has been more cautious and gave warning, sensibly, that the real work was only beginning. Opinion polls already show that most of the electorate favour the deal, although the percentages vary from 51 per cent to 73 per cent, with the undecideds as high as 32 per cent in one poll.

It is in just such a circumstance that newspapers over the period of the campaign are likely to have real influence in persuading those who are uncertain to accept a package that balances with almost mathematical precision a series of concessions and compromises.

On present form, it seems likely that all the leading dailies could come out in favour of the agreement, with varying shades of enthusiasm. It could make all the difference in producing the sort of majority that could help to isolate the terrorist splinter groups that will inevitably continue to ply their violent trade whatever is decided by the ballot box.

On May 22 it may even be possible for the Irish newspapers to claim that they helped to win a victory for reason over prejudice. Or, as *The Irish Times* put it memorably in celebration of Easter 1998, there really is a chance to create a new Ireland: "It is time for Gael and Briton, Northerner and Southerner, those of all religions and of none, to rejoice in the privilege of living upon this bountiful and lovely island, to secure its future for all of our descendants and to do so in an expectation of lasting peace. This historic agreement, if endorsed by the people, will make it possible to do so." Indeed it will.

Tunku Varadarajan on troubles at the Reader's Digest

Pimping for drugs?

The venerable *Reader's Digest*, a monthly compendium of vocabulary tests, creaking jokes, moral homilies and wholesome human-interest tales, is about to perch itself on a tricky editorial tightrope.

From June millions of American subscribers will receive personalised medical supplements — called "unserts", because they are to be inserted under the magazine's cover — that will address their own ailments or health concerns. The unserts will be 12 pages long, packed with advice, case studies and upbeat articles on how to cope, heal and recover.

But each booklet will also have four pages of advertising from a single drug company whose products are aimed at curing the condition in question. This has led to accusations that the unserts are just unsubtle advertorials, and that *Reader's Digest*, renowned throughout its 75 years for editorial integrity, is pimping for the drug multinationals.

The targeting of patients is only the latest attempt by the *Digest* to arrest declining sales. Another tactic was unveiled this month when it abandoned the habit of a lifetime and took its index off the cover, replacing it with a more attractive picture-and-banner based design. While the new cover is arguably overdue — and will give rise to nothing more than mild aesthetic disagreements — the unserts are altogether more polemical. Their seeds were sown last year, when the magazine posted survey forms to each of its 15 million American subscribers; five million responses were received, perhaps because of a "lucky dip" prize of $45,000 (£28,000) or a new *Cadillac*.

The forms listed such ailments as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, cancer, psoriasis, gastritis, hair loss, toenail fungus, stomach ulcers and glaucoma. Subscribers were then asked to tick boxes saying whether they "suffered from" the condition or "wanted more information". An accompanying note said: "In every issue of *Reader's Digest* we give you medical information to help you to stay healthy. Now we'd like to give you information and product news that specifically addresses those medical conditions that directly affect your household. But to do that we need your help."

Respondents were also asked to indicate which prescription drugs they used. The form stated that "some of the information from this survey may be shared with healthcare companies". These companies are such pharmaceutical goliaths as Eli Lilly, Glaxo Wellcome, Bristol-Myers Squibb, G D Searle and SmithKline Beecham. And although *Reader's Digest* publicly disputes this, at least one of the companies has said it will have some editorial control over the content of the supplements. Warren Siddall, the director of advertising services for SmithKline's consumer unit, told *The Wall Street Journal* that his company was entitled to prior approval over who writes the booklets.

"If we felt there was a writer involved ... whose credibility we had had reason to doubt, it would be our option to choose not to participate," he said.

Allan Adamson, a managing director at a New York-based unit of the agency Young & Rubicam, said giving an advertiser even a small editorial role is "an implied endorsement from the publication". Frank Lalli, the president of the American Society of Magazine Editors, has suggested that the line between editorial and advertising is blurred.

The magazine, however, insists that there is nothing untoward. Marcia Lefkowitz, the president of Reader's Digest USA, says the booklets will not be compromised by advertisers. "What's different is that we're asking our customers what kind of information they're interested in and then giving it to them. We'll put out the facts. The advertising doesn't influence that."

The queue forms for Birt's job



Maggie Brown's MEDIA DIARY

■ JOHN BIRT's decision to step down by spring 2000 — at the latest — is unleashing speculation over who will succeed him. Will the Director-General help to select his heir? The aim is for an overlap, with Birt and his effective deputy, Will Wyatt, ensuring a smooth transition. I'm told Alan Yentob, Director of Television, is ruled out — he is considered better at the creative side — but the field is wide open. Insiders with a chance are Tony Hall, Chief Executive BBC News; Patricia Hodgson, Director of Policy; Matthew Bannister, Director of Radio; and Mark Byford, Director, Regional Policy.

None seems quite right. So will more junior executives, such as Mark Thompson, Controller of BBC2, step up?

■ THERE is still no decision by ITV about moving *News at Ten*. The strategy looks more risky, because its decline in audiences (minus 9 per cent in the first three months this year) is in line with ITV's peak programmes overall, and less than many in the preceding 9-10pm period. One solution is to scrap regional news and weather at 10.30pm, and go into a top networked show.

■ HUGH SCULLY is best known as the BBC's Mr Antiques — his show chalks up 21 years this autumn. But he has been responsible, through his company, Fine Art Production, for the documentaries *The Gulf War*, *The Falklands War*, *The Thatcher Years* and *Labour — The Wilderness Years*. But he's on the point of giving them up in despair at the way TV is heading. Typical, he says, is Brian Lapping's experience of losing money because no one would fully fund *The 50-Year War* about the Arab-Israeli conflict (screened by BBC2). "I find the whole process desperate. All the broadcasters want is cheap half-hour shows. The future lies in feature films."

■ TO THE surfers' Global Café, in London's Golden Square, where the new BBC Websites, from *Teletubbies* to *Crimewatch*, were on display. The shock is that top programme-makers have been diverted into the big push. Chris Smith, Culture, Media and Sports Secretary, has ordered BBC Online to carry out a public consultation. Is this the right use of licence-fee money?

■ THE question everyone at Associated Newspapers wants to know it whether S. (Sally) G. Taylor, American historian of the *Daily Mail*, will push on. Her newly published second volume, *The Reluctant Press Lord*, about Esmond Rothermere, breaks off just as it hots up in 1971 with Lord (Vere) Harmsworth and David English sweeping in after decades of bad management. She says: "It's a lot harder when you come up to date. You have to have unimpeded access, because people will try to block you. The book was commissioned, not authorised; without this agreement I would have hit trouble. I've a lot better idea of what happened than anyone else." Of the famous switch to a tabloid paper that would be interesting to women, she says: "In retrospect, it was a muddle, trying as *Lord (Vere)* always *does* this and that, not perfection."

She was engaged for the task by Vere Harmsworth and still finds Sir David English frightening. "I've spent seven years on the *Mail*; it's a waste. With poor rewards."

She is also disappointed with the reviews. "Most critics have failed to cotton on that it's a story of a failure."

She made exhaustive checks before concluding that "in the biggest mistake of his career", Esmond sold out of his potentially lucrative investment in commercial TV, in 1956, one month before it turned into profit, a move which has since haunted the company.

Most refreshing experience? Working with Peter Wright, deputy editor, who handled the serialisation in the paper. "He's clever and exhaustive, a supreme subeditor."



■ LINDA McCARTNEY'S death was not altogether a shock to those who knew her well. Andrea Wonfor, the joint managing director of Granada Television, who has also had breast cancer, invited her to the Leicester Square premiere in June of her film *Girls' Night*, starring Julie Walters and Brenda Blethyn (left), confident she would lend support. In the film the pair, one with terminal breast cancer, the other fleeing a crumbling marriage, win a large sum at bingo, then blow it in Las Vegas before returning home. But Linda's office refused the invitation. "We guessed she'd had more chemotherapy," says Wonfor. Peter Salmon, Controller of BBC1, has decided to repeat *Behind the Lens*, an *Arena* profile of Linda and the only one ever made, on May 3, rather than make a rushed special issue.



media times

Mission impossible at the BBC

Rupert Gavin, new chief executive of BBC Worldwide, tells **Raymond Snoddy** of his plans for a commercial revolution

the media interview



ANDRE CAMARA

Rupert Gavin: "Everyone keeps on telling me that it's utterly bureaucratic, it's unachievable, it's an impossible compromise between public service and the commercial world"

When Rupert Gavin told friends he was thinking of accepting the chief executive's job at BBC Worldwide, the commercial arm of the BBC, the response was unanimous. "I was told the job was impossible," says Gavin, the man who built up a 2,000-strong multimedia division at BT that is expected to achieve annual revenues of £2 billion a year by 2000.

"Everyone keeps on telling me that it's utterly bureaucratic, it's unachievable, it's an impossible compromise between public service and the commercial world, and that it's so firmly rooted in the UK culture of yesteryear that it will be impossible." He adds, with determination: "That is the challenge." In fact, the more that friends said the job was impossible, the more certain he became that he would take it. When the vacancy came up, one television executive suggested that the BBC, which cannot pay the fanciest television industry salaries, or dangle share options, would either get someone who was independently wealthy or someone who was not up to the job.

In 41-year-old Gavin, the BBC has got someone who is independently very wealthy indeed. He joined Sharps Advertising as a copywriter in 1976 — he was behind the John Players Special "black" campaign, was involved in a management buyout of the agency with five partners, and sold it to Saatchi & Saatchi in 1985.

Gavin is a large, genial, almost shambling man who in another life could have been a farmer or a country squire. In fact he is an extraordinary character who inhabits, with seemingly equal ease, both the creative and the commercial worlds and manages to make money at both.

"He is a serious commercial player and he knows how to handle the luvvies. The BBC is lucky to get him," says Adam Singer, executive chairman of Flextech, the cable and satellite programming group in a joint venture with the BBC.

By the time he was an economics student at Magdalene College, Cambridge, Old Etonian Gavin was involved in local drama and writing first drafts of filmscripts for Koo Stark's producer father Wilbur. "I just kept writing off to producers and getting it done. It was just shoe leather," says Gavin, who is also a professional writer of rock lyrics.

Getting a job writing advertising copy was easier than trying to write full time for film or television. "I didn't apply for the BBC. I was more interested in the commercial stuff," Gavin says. When he was at Sharps he set up his own theatrical production company, Incidental Theatre, now one of the main players in the West End. The company, which has its own managing director, Dan Coleman, and a permanent staff of six to eight, has been responsible for productions such as *An Evening with Gary Lineker* and *An Inspector Calls*. At the moment Gavin says Incidental is pioneering what he hopes will be the latest wave of comedy, physical comedy, a cross between surreal, slapstick, Vaudeville and stand-up. "It's meant to be for interest. The fact that it does make money is just one of those things that happen by accident."

If theatrical success came partly by chance, there was little accidental about Gavin's business career. After two years as a Saatchi & Saatchi director, he went to work for Stanley Kalms at his largest client, Dixons. "I took personal computers into the high street for the first time and introduced video games to the UK. People blame me for quite a lot," says Gavin with a grin. At Dixons he learnt all there was to know about introducing new technology to the consumer, the importance of "selling the excitement of it" and using volume production to get the price right.

He also learnt that if there is any hint of confusion about standards, the consumer will wait to see the outcome, a problem that could hit the launch of digital television later this year if the digital and satellite and terrestrial systems cannot easily be linked.

In 1994 he was appointed to lead BT's move into multimedia and has been responsible for everything from the Internet and interactive television to experiments with pay-per-view television down conventional telephone lines. He was also instrumental in putting together British Interactive Broadcasting, a consortium made up of BSkyB, BT, Midland Bank and Matsushita, which, when it finally receives regulatory approval from Brussels, will offer home shopping, home banking and Internet services through the television set.

Gavin's main reason for accepting the BBC job, apart from the challenge, is that he believes Britain is at a defining moment in implementing the digital revolution and could become a world leader. The technology is in place — both the distribution networks and the platforms — and the next big challenge is to create value out of the content in the digital environment. He says: "I believe that is the greatest challenge: how does one translate the content assets of the BBC into a worldwide global media force in the digital environment?"

Gavin has been given a long-term contract to maximise the BBC's commercial revenues, although the licence fee will remain the main source of revenue for the foreseeable future. One of his key tasks, he says, will be to ensure that there is what he calls the correct level of transparency for commercial rivals who complain that, in effect, assets built up with licence payers' money are being used to compete against them in the marketplace.

"The commercial arm has to operate at arm's length. It has got to be accountable and auditable in a way that doesn't give the commercial arm advantage over any other commercial organisation, and which shows that funds flow correctly back to the publicly funded activities."

Just as Sir Christopher Bland, the BBC Chairman, has authorised a more commercial approach at Worldwide, he has also given approval for Gavin's evening job at Incidental to continue. "It takes three or four hours a week," Gavin says. "To me it's less than playing golf. If this wasn't my hobby I would play golf."

Gavin, who spends his weekends in Dorset, also manages to find time for a wife and family, as well as being a vice-president of the Royal Television Society, a committee member of the Contemporary Art Society, and a governor of the National Film and Television School.

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REBECCA NADEN

Before Britannia began losing her cool: the Prime Minister entertains Oasis singer Noel Gallagher and his wife Meg at a reception at No 10

Rise again, Cool Britannia

Chris Powell tells **Nigel Williamson** *how Labour's tarnished election image can help to sell Britain*

New Labour's "Cool Britannia" image has taken a battering of late but Chris Powell, the adman behind the party's general election campaign, insists that the basic idea remains sound. Powell, who heads BMP-DDB, recently voted Britain's most successful agency by the industry, is touting around Whitehall a blueprint designed to rescue the tarnished imagery and use it to promote the whole of British industry and enterprise. He won't like the phrase, but in effect he is pitching for the biggest account of them all — Great Britain plc.

He is saddened rather than surprised by the recent Cool Britannia backlash. "It is really the media attacking themselves," he says. "They latched on to the phrase and now they are bored with it."

Despite the attacks of Ben Elton and others, Powell believes that Cool Britannia is still enormously attractive — and underexploited — abroad. But at the moment it attaches more to music, fashion and literature than commerce. Already a huge surge in applications from Australians to visit and work in Britain has been attributed to glowing reports of Cool Britannia by the Australian media.

This year Powell, 54, celebrates three decades in advertising. It is also the 30th birthday of BMP, which he joined straight from university. Both thrived under the Tories but seem to be doing even better under new Labour. The agency's commercials for Volkswagen swept the board at the recent TV advertising awards and Powell is swiftly becoming as much of a guru to new Labour as Sir Tim Bell was to Thatcherism. Yet he modestly refuses the accolade. "That was all Tony Blair," he says. "We did what Tony wanted so there's no credit here. But I would concede that we contributed to the image that Britain has a young leader and is doing rather well."

He admits that there are dangers, however. "I remember the 1960s and the 'I'm backing Britain' campaign. These images can look rather foolish very quickly. The problem with the phrase Cool Britannia is that people who are cool don't go around saying they are cool. Instead, the image needs to become self-perpetuating. I'd like to develop a Made In Britain mark which can capture the ingenuity and innovation of this country."

Powell believes that the Government needs a central co-ordinating body with the task of marketing Britain. "The danger is that the momentum of Cool Britannia will blow away. There are a lot of different bodies and organisations with an interest but there is no one point where they come together. I'm running around trying to lobby for it and I've been to various ministries to talk about it over the past few weeks."

It seems unlikely that his suggestions will fall on deaf ears. Not only has he had Labour's advertising account for the past three general elections, his brother Jonathan is Tony Blair's chief-of-staff. More awkwardly, his elder brother Charles worked in Downing Street for Margaret Thatcher. The political connections sometimes embarrass him and explain why he has never spoken to the press since Peter Mandelson first approached him to work for Labour in 1986.

"I am paranoid," he admits.



Powell: Labour guru

"I get called Labour's adman and if you are advising someone you cannot speak in public because it negates the role. I think that is morally wrong and foolish. And my difficulty has been compounded by Jonathan working for Tony. *The Daily Telegraph* has been chasing for an interview. I am sure they just want to write 'Labour man says yah, boo sucks to Cool Britannia'."

Powell also points out that Labour's account represents less than 2 per cent of BMP's turnover and financially pales alongside, for example, the £40 million Volkswagen account. Yet he believes the techniques required are identical, and he approaches selling a car in exactly the same way as he attempts to sell a political party. "Both involve trying to find out what the problem is and finding the way communications might help to answer it," he says.

The first Labour politician to grasp this message, he says, was Ken Livingstone. The campaign to save the GLC, which Powell also ran, turned out to be a lost cause, but it was significant, he says, as the first time the Left had turned to a big agency. Yet strangely Powell then admits that advertising makes very little difference in politics.

"You shouldn't listen to all that blarney from Saatchi about how they go around winning elections," he says. "Kinnock's 1987 campaign showed that good presentation makes very little difference. That made people realise that they had to alter what they were saying to the world, not just the way they said it."

Powell rejects the criticism that under new Labour government is now carried out by focus groups. "That was what Michael Foot was always afraid of, but it isn't necessarily like that. You don't have to agree with your audience, you have to know how to be relevant to them."

Powell joined BMP on its formation in 1968 as an account manager before becoming joint managing director and then chief executive in 1986. Many staff have been with him for much of that tenure. He says that BMP has always stood for thoughtfulness and originality and has influenced the whole industry by its ethos of staying close to the consumer. "We have creative people who are always prepared to listen. That's quite rare in this industry because people feel their own ideas are under threat."

So has advertising changed much during his 30 years at the top? "Television is still the dominant medium and the challenge remains the same — to crack the creative problem and execute it with intrigue, charm and impact. Actually, I don't think advertising has changed at all."

The rich list strikes publishing gold

When Perween Warsi could not find a decent samosa or tandoori chicken at her local supermarket in Derby, she set to work in her kitchen and started making her own. Ten years later she is head of S&A Foods, is worth £45 million, and is the 508th richest person in Britain.

Hers was the story singled out for the *Daily Mail* this week by Philip Beresford, compiler of *The Sunday Times* Rich List, to show what it takes to become one of the super-rich. The only way, he says, is the Warsi way — to start your own business in a niche market and work hard. Don't worry about A levels and a degree: one in four of the wealthiest thousand Britons failed examinations and left school early.

The annual list is one of modern journalism's most newsworthy creations. Wherever I went last Sunday, there was no doubt about what bit of which newspaper had been read most avidly. All my friends and acquaintances had scanned the 74 pages of *The Sunday Times* Rich List.

Newspapermen had checked out the *Daily Mail*'s Lord Rothermere (£1,000 million). *The Independent*'s Tony O'Reilly (£1,100 million) and the Barclay brothers (£650 million). There were ten regional newspaper barons who were worth between £20 and £40 million. At dinner a well-known critic was being joshed by his friends because they had noted his daughter was married to a peer worth £40 million. I turned first to the index and checked the wealth of the only millionaire I know well. Within a year he had allegedly become another £10 million wealthier. It couldn't happen to a nicer bloke.

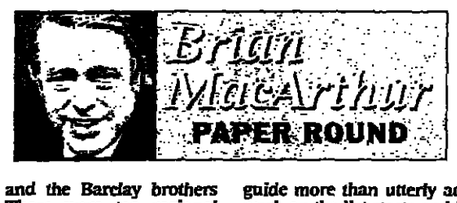
On Monday in the *Evening Standard* Martin vander Weyer dismissed the rich list as as a form of harmless "softcore pornography", an epithet that was not only undeserved but also over-harsh. It is not sexual excitement that the rich list stirs, but a fascination at all the myriad ways in which the wealthy have made their money. As Beresford says, we all yearn to know what the guy next door is worth.

The main criticism of the rich list is not that is soft porn but that it is a charter for burglars and kidnappers. Beresford retorts that he publishes no addresses and that all the information he publishes is in the public domain. None of the information is secret.

Beresford first worked on making a rich list in 1983, when he and Ivan Fallon (who now manages Tony O'Reilly's South African newspapers) were on *The Sunday Telegraph*. They decided on 200 names and started ringing them up. There were so many outraged complaints to Lord Hartwell, the *Telegraph* chairman, that the impertinent idea was quickly dropped and revived only when both moved to *The Sunday Times* in 1989.

Since then, the list has grown from 200 to 1,000 names, each with a short biography. It is published as a separate magazine, with 74 pages and a glossy cover, and can also be consulted on the Internet. For Beresford, studying the rich seems to have become his life's work and it occupies him for most of the year.

He uses almost 50 reference books, pays a network of local correspondents, keeps a cuttings library on 5,000 people, and stores his information on a constantly expanding database. He scours the national, regional and trade press and checks all his information at Companies House. He gets total co-operation from about a hundred of the names and the list becomes more accurate as he reacts year-by-year to any complaints. The royal art collection is no longer counted, for instance, as part of the Queen's wealth, which means that she becomes the 94th richest Briton instead of the world's wealthiest woman. Beresford accepts that the list is a rough guide more than utterly accurate. His real work on the list starts on his valuation date of January 1. After that he works seven days a week until the end of March, writing 5,000 words a day for the last six weeks as he does detailed studies of the top 500.



After ten years' experience, *The Sunday Times* now organises a sophisticated PR campaign to get publicity for the list on the Saturday before publication. The aim is to whet readers' appetites so that they will buy the paper next day. Last week Ian Coxon, the managing editor who masterminds the campaign, sent out ten regional lists to regional newspapers and broadcasters, as well as lists for music, fashion and the five fastest-rising fortunes to the nationals — still reserving the top ten for *The Sunday Times* itself.

Other news editors certainly recognised the news interest of stories about wealth. The story got a double-page spread in *The Sun*, a three-column display in *The Daily Telegraph* and half a page in the *Daily Mail*, and Beresford did 12 radio and television interviews. Only the *Daily Record* in Scotland failed to mention *The Sunday Times*.

There was no doubt about the interest last Sunday. Sales of *The Sunday Times* rose to 1,465,000, an increase of 211,000 on the week before. As for Beresford, his work hasn't made him a millionaire but he lives in "comfortable prosperity". "My value is recognised."

What has gone wrong at BT?

■ LESS than two years ago BT was Britain's largest and, arguably, most effective advertiser. Now it seems a confused organisation, lacking in confidence and haemorrhaging senior marketing talent.

Rupert Gavin, the managing director of BT's consumer division who is to join BBC Worldwide as chief executive, is the latest to leave. There is now no managing director in either the business or consumer divisions, and no overall marketing supremo. So what is amiss?

For years BT relied on its Customer Communications Unit (CCU) to act as its marketing department. Run by Adrian Hosford, perhaps its finest hour was the Beattie campaign starring Maureen Lipman. On CCU's disbandment four years ago, marketing responsibility devolved to the divisions. Stafford Taylor, then managing director of the consumer division, appointed Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO, and implemented the "it's good to talk" campaign. With its star, Bob Hoskins, the campaign was a success. At its core was the grandiose idea of educating the public (particularly men) into using the phone more often and for longer.

As the dominant market leader, BT used its position to run a generic campaign, expanding the overall phone market and then defending its share within it. It acknowledged niche players such as Ionica and Mercury, but BT had bigger fish to fry.

Its international strategy was clear. Telecoms was a global business. To be a global player it had to form at least one alliance with another global player. Hence its 20 per cent stake in MCI. That is why, despite the windfall profits, it has not fully bounced back from being outbid for MCI by WorldCom last year. A less confident BT came to rely more and more on Ed Carter, the maverick direct marketer. The controversial Carter has been involved in several disputes with BT's agencies. Meanwhile, he pushed through an endless succession of promotions and direct selling offers: "friends and family", "reunion", "best friend", "the cost of calling keeps falling" and many others displaced the focus on more emotional brand values.

Sadly, the impressive Taylor left the company last year because of ill-health. To judge by the succession of other departing top marketers, the internal wrangling and finished product has not been to everyone's taste. This quarter BT has spent roughly one third of what it did in the same quarter last year. That is not the only reason consumers cannot recall an ad.



Now Carter has moved on to Cellnet along with Peter Erskine, the former managing director of the business division, and Gavin has gone. Bill Cockburn, the newish managing director of BT's UK operations, has the opportunity to put a new team in place, and commission better ads.

But whether the BT brand returns to the fore at the expense of promotions remains to be seen. BT's marketing has come to reflect the company's corporate insecurity. Someone needs to get a grip.

■ MICHAEL DOBBS, author of the *House of Cards* series and former deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, has returned to the ad industry, where he first made his name. From 1983 to 1991 Dobbs was deputy chairman of Saatchi & Saatchi. Now he is to be the non-executive chairman and backer of Spirit, a start-up agency formed by Richard Hammond, the former Bozell vice-president, and Mitch Levy.

The start-up's prerequisite "big idea" is to offer a global service based in London with the aid of World Writers, the international copywriting agency, and Walker Media, the M&C Saatchi-backed media buying operation.

It's an interesting thought, based on the increased incidence of big multinational clients such as Coca-Cola going outside their multinational agency alignments to deposit problem brands with smaller, more nimble agencies.

But Hammond and Levy are not exactly household names. They will have to work very hard to compete with recent start-ups such as Mother and Circus, despite the required odd name.

The question is, why is Dobbs bothering? Either he is yet another victim of the drug that is the ad industry, or he's planning a new novel set in the business and needs to update his research.

● *Stefano Hatfield is the Editor of* Campaign.

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CHANGING TIMES

TV falls under a giant shadow

Eastern Europe's television is fighting to retain its identity, says **Patricia Holland**

ADRIAN FARCHNATA



Richard III was a co-production between Britain and Russia — but many Eastern Europeans are uneasy with the arrangement

In the traditional Slovakian tale *The Stool* — now part of an animated television series titled *Fairy Tales from Bratislava* — a giant flies over the city. People, buildings, and the teeming life below are all reflected in his massive, swivelling eye. When he spies Bratislava Castle with its four symmetrical towers, his hand swoops down. Furniture is overturned. The inhabitants are flung in all directions. Within the castle all is chaos. But outside, the giant has found somewhere to sit. The upturned castle has become his stool.

It's difficult to imagine that the animators missed the contemporary significance — although the double meaning in English of the word stool may have escaped them. Like struggling television producers across Eastern Europe, they, too, must deal with the giants who stalk the global scene, casually overturning traditional habits and values and depositing their products in their place.

Upheavals across the region have been so traumatic that even the participants have difficulty in keeping track of them. At a recent Unesco-backed conference of television executives in Posnan, delegates confused Latvia with Lithuania, Slovakia with Slovenia and assumed that Czechoslovakia still existed.

At a recent conference in London, Eszter Farkas-Laki, the head of children's programmes in the state-funded Hungarian Television, described how a stable institution, with well funded production, has been ripped apart in the push to break monolithic state power. Vice-presidents have come and gone, each one bent on reshaping the organisation from scratch. Budgets have been reduced, collaboration between the different departments has been stopped as internal markets are introduced, and forward planning has become next to impossible.

However, the original rush to privatise local channels has slowed in the face of high-pressure marketing from American giants such as Time Warner and Disney. The big commercial network CME now draws huge audiences in Romania, Ukraine and the Czech Republic for its largely American programmes dubbed into local languages. The state media, which still has access to studios and in-house production, is having a minor resurgence, but must cope on small licence fees.

The struggling new private channels are sometimes better funded than the state-run channels, because of their Western, often American partners. Even so, despite examples such as the energetic private company Abracadabra of Romania, whose general manager Ruxandra Ion is convinced that she can make money with her lively children's programmes, most smaller private enterprises remain underfunded.

State television in many Eastern European countries has still not managed to shake itself free from government domination. Such is the need to build up news-based independent political programming that the range and diversity that Britain takes for granted is low on the agenda. Most Eastern European entertainment television now originates in the West.

Andrei Menshikov, of RIR in Moscow, describes the situation as not only a crisis of economics, but a crisis of culture. There is more to a free media than political freedom and market competition. The cultures and languages of Eastern Europe are diverse, and each is bent on rediscovering a long repressed heritage. But, even if quotas for domestic production were desirable, where would the money come from to support them?

For many, the answer must be pan-European co-operation. The European Broadcasting Union facilitates European links, regardless of the distinction between East and West. Yet the difference between the two parts of Europe remains only too firm — and it is based on money.

In Britain the Welsh language S4C, which collaborated with Russia on animated tales from Shakespeare, has just launched a 26-country co-production entitled *Animated Tales of the World*. Promising as such initiatives are, many Eastern Europeans feel that collaboration between the former Soviet bloc countries would a better way to address their problems.

Jerzy Moszkowicz, president of CIFEJ, Poland, argues that they remain bound to each other by the same troublesome heritage; the shared experience of communist domination cannot be so quickly forgotten. Previously, structures were imposed from above and tightly controlled, but they gave a coherence which meant independence from the West. Why not try to recreate that co-operation?

New initiatives include the EU-backed Alfa project, which potentially brings together 20 nations. Mr Moszkowicz says: "We Eastern Europeans must constantly ask who we are and where we are." But the answers must always take into account those giants whose economic interests mean they do not care which way up they turn Bratislava Castle, or where they deposit their stools.

Digital death sentence for disc jockeys

Chris Ayres reports on a bitter struggle over 24-hour cable music

STUART GRABER wants to change the way people listen to radio. For good. If he gets his way, adverts will be replaced by subscription charges, and DJs will be replaced by computers pumping out music 24 hours a day.

The record industry, however, has different ideas. Some executives privately accuse Graber and his company, Music Choice Europe, of trying to destroy CD sales. The dispute is becoming increasingly bitter, with both sides refusing to give way.

Music Choice is available only to cable subscribers, who pay a monthly fee to receive several music channels in addition to their television package. But in June it aims to provide about 50 of the 200 digital channels to be provided by BSkyB. Each channel will be devoted to a different genre of music, with titles ranging from *Classic Rock* and *Hit List* to the more esoteric *Sounds of India*. By the year 2000, Music Choice hopes to have about three million listeners across Europe. It will give about ten channels free to Sky digital subscribers, with another 40 being made available for about £5 per month.

Music Choice is also in talks to join one of the consortiums bidding for a national UK digital radio licence. Graber reckons that technology will soon allow listeners to pick up Music Choice's channels on portable and car radios. He says that no sensible person will pay £1,000 for a digital radio receiver if they can pick up only stations which are already available on analogue.

"Conventionally, when people want to listen to music they switch on the radio," he says at his penthouse office in London's Edgware Road. "But you have to accept the fact that people are going to be listening to music when it's not delivered through a traditional radio station. They want to hear music, not advertising or DJs."

Music Choice's shareholders include the record companies Warner Music, Sony and EMI. But in February, BSkyB effectively took control by buying a 49 per cent stake. So the company is now the product of an uneasy marriage between the music and broadcast industries.

The argument put forward by record companies against Music Choice is this: why would anyone buy a Spice Girls album if Music Choice subscribers can listen to a channel which plays only music by young British girl bands?

Graber, an abrasive New Yorker, responds: "That is the thinking of a very inferior being. Our research shows that people buy more CDs when they subscribe to our channels."

GRABER is particularly angered by Rob Dickins, the head of the British Phonographic Industry, who refers to Music Choice as narrowcasters, rather than broadcasters. Conventional radio stations pay about 5 per cent of their turnover to copyright organisations in return for playing records but, according to Graber, BPI is demanding that Music Choice pays 50 per cent. He argues that Music Choice is a form of advertising for record companies: the title of each song played is credited.

The music industry still remains to be convinced of his honourable intentions, however. "I could say 'come and have a Beatles channel, you can listen to it 24 hours a day'," he says. "Why not? Because EMI would go ballistic! We will *not* play single artists and we will *not* promote music in advance."

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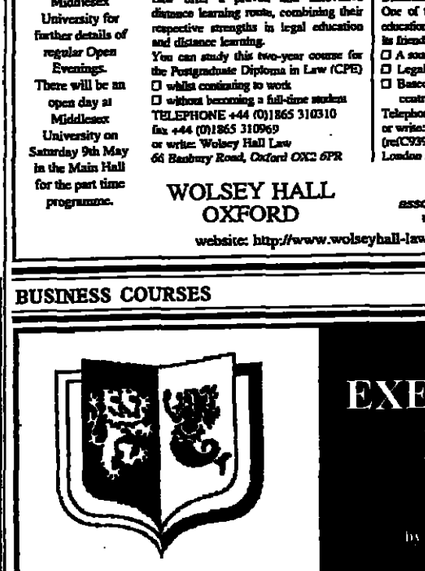
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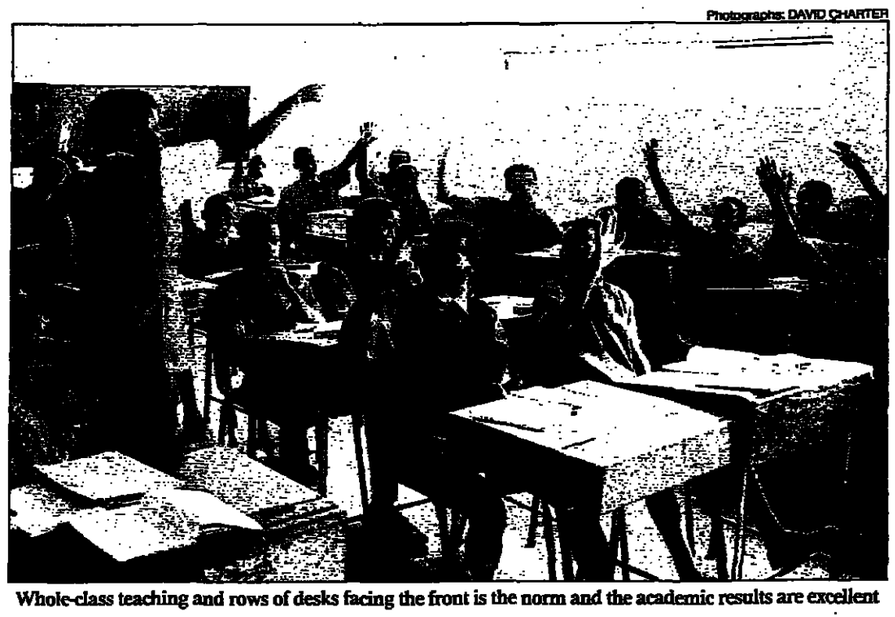
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EDUCATION

David Charter visits a remarkable school that represents hope in a crisis-ridden country

A school on the path to glory

Photographs: DAVID CHARTER



Whole-class teaching and rows of desks facing the front is the norm and the academic results are excellent

The Princess Royal singled it out as one of the most inspiring schools she has ever visited. Starehe Boys Centre, on the edge of a Kenyan city known for its riots and slums, is nothing less than a symbol of hope in a country low on optimism.

The school may seem an unlikely subject for the Princess to use to open an address to the heads of Britain's top independent schools. But her speech was timely. It came as Starehe began a battle for funding to keep alive its unique brand of education.

The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference heard the Princess recall a visit to Nairobi in her role as President of the Save the Children Fund, when she saw street children and the offspring of the rich studying side by side.

Almost 20,000 applied for the 200 places last year. Unusually in a country where secondary education costs more than many families could ever hope to afford, three quarters of Starehe's pupils are destitute, supported by local and international donors. Such is the clamour for places that one primary school head teacher was jailed after claiming that his own son was an impoverished orphan.

Sifting the applicants is the most difficult task of the director, Geoffrey Griffin. It takes almost every waking hour of the Christmas holiday.

The scholarship boys must have their poor circumstances and academic potential confirmed by a tribal chief and head teacher. Just as importantly, Kenyan-born Dr Griffin wants the year group to represent the whole of Kenyan society. He said: "Life is tough for the poor in this country. People's lives depend on education. Only one child in 100 will see the inside of a university compared with one in three in the United Kingdom."

Dr Griffin founded Starehe with two assistants in 1959 during the dying days of Empire in Kenya to give education — and food — to orphans of the Mau Mau uprising. As it grew, it established a mission to educate boys from the two dozen tribes that formed the republic in 1963. In the face of tribal rivalries in the country, the school remains a microcosm of nation-building, which led Jomo Kenyatta, Kenya's first President, to bestow its motto, *Natulenge Juu* (Aim High).

"For the poor boys coming here, it is like going to Mars," Dr Griffin said. "They have never seen water coming out of a tap or worn new clothes. There are many cases of malaria and two boys came this year with chronic ulcers. If they had not been caught within six months, they would have been amputation cases." One village boy screamed when he first saw a train in Nairobi, convinced a huge snake was after him. Twenty years on, he is a senior manager at Securicor.

Jonah Aiyabei, 13, recalled: "Try to imagine life at primary school.



Dr Griffin, head and co-founder

Up every morning at 4am, collect firewood, light a fire... Then off barefooted, running 2km to school, sometimes in torrential rain. I suffered but I never stopped working hard and praying that things would change. That is why my heart was illuminated when I received the letter calling me to Starehe."

Enock Odhiambo, 14, said: "There was a lot of happiness when I gained a Starehe place, not just in my family but in the whole village, because people knew that one day I would save my family from poverty."

Building by building, the school has grown in 39 years from two tin huts in a slum district to a 48-acre campus with a perfect green quadrangle surrounded by a chapel and huge dining and assembly halls which can take all 1,100 boys.

On the rudimentary athletics track, rutted with tyre marks, Eliud Wasonga, the games master, has coached thousands of youngsters including Paul Ereng, an exceptional runner who eventually made the national team. From this humble background, Ereng tore through the field in the 800m final at the Seoul Olympics to claim a gold medal. Under his framed photograph in the school entrance hall, he wrote: "Thanks for showing me the path to glory."

The traditional style of education developed by Dr Griffin, 64, has been copied throughout Kenya. But other schools for the children of the wealthy lie far behind in the examinations league table.

Starehe is run like an English public school, with a strong prefect system allowing older boys a great deal of responsibility in policing homework, the dining room and other school rules and rituals. Unlike some Kenyan schools, which have a reputation for brutality, physical punishment is rare, often amounting to no more than instant press-ups or a jog around the running track. Whole-class teaching and rows of desks facing the front is the norm.

The school is developing its own tertiary centre for accountancy and computing to help those who miss out on one of the five universities.

The immediate threat to its future comes from the loss of income worth more than half the annual budget. The Save the Children Fund, which played a key role in establishing the school, is phasing out its funding as part of its policy of ensuring that projects become self-sufficient.

In a country in which political and social unrest simmers just below the surface, it may be no exaggeration to claim that the future of Kenya depends in no small part on the survival of Starehe.

Its medical centre has helped many, including 18-year-old Daniel, from Turkana in the country's North West, who struggled into the school three days late last term, with malaria and typhoid. When he had recovered sufficiently to talk about his ordeal, Daniel told Dr Griffin how a virulent outbreak of disease after unseasonal rains had infected both him and his mother. Realising the seriousness of their condition, they set out on a 150-mile desert trek to the nearest hospital. Daniel's mother died during the journey, leaving him an orphan.

Dr Griffin said: "He gave his mother a simple burial in the sand. Some Good Samaritans got him on his feet and he reached the school. Now you know what I mean when I say this school is life or death for some of these boys."

● *The Princess Royal, who has visited Starehe twice, launched the Aim High Appeal to raise funds so that the school can continue to provide the only free secondary education in Kenya.*

● *For more information, phone Helen Varma on 0171-434 2071 or Nicola Johnston, 0171-434 5570. E-mail: aimhigh@sl.sixnis.com*

Home help for the children

David Blunkett explains his plans for after-school study

For me, the litmus test of any education policy is whether it works to improve standards for those in my constituency, one of the most disadvantaged in Britain. Equally important is my personal understanding as a father and not simply a politician.

Ask my sons whether they want to do homework and you get a robust response. Encourage them to do it, however, and you see immediately the value and the improvement in their understanding. I have seen this from reading with them in the very early years and being able to pick up their problems and build their confidence. They are lucky. They have a family committed to education and prepared to badger them to study at home. Our job has to be to offer that to all children. I want all schools to copy the methods used by the most successful ones. This is why I announced advice on levels of homework and a £200 million scheme to help to expand the network of study support centres.

Some state schools provide holiday reading lists for youngsters. I want to see more schools using this type of approach. There is growing evidence showing the benefits of homework. Schools that regularly mark homework have higher standards. Pupils, parents and teachers can see the advantages of the extra after-school help and holiday homework offered at private schools.

Holiday homework fits into a wider pattern of trying to make good use of time outside lessons to help children's education. We established the first 50 summer literacy schools last year to help children to catch up on their reading before going to secondary school. This year the programme extends to 562 schools.

I have urged parents to help youngsters to read a little from an early stage, with more formal homework from the age of seven. Youngsters should get into the homework habit early, which is why I suggest that a ten-year-old should spend 20 minutes reading and half an hour on homework. For 14 to 16-year-olds, between one and two hours a night is about right for home study.

This does not mean that children have to miss out on playing with friends or taking part in sport. A National Foundation for Educational Research study shows that 51 per cent of ten-year-olds spend three hours a night watching television and 43 per cent get no regular homework. I am simply asking children to spare some time to study; they will still have plenty of leisure time.

The study centres will also offer other activities to motivate youngsters, such as more opportunities to take part in sport and the arts, which will enable education to reach children in different ways. Often such involvement for a child plays a key role in influencing a youngster who is in danger of losing interest in school.

The network of 8,000 study centres will be developed from 1,800 centres already in operation, including hundreds backed by The Prince's Trust. It will mean that one in every two secondary schools and one in every four primary schools will have one.

I also hope that the network will provide an alternative place for children to study. Sometimes the home is too noisy or there is not enough space because children share bedrooms.

The advice on homework and the programme to help study support is linked to the new home-school agreements. I hope that it will also link with initiatives such as those designed to cut truancy and improve discipline. And I hope that the emphasis on homework will help to develop closer links between pupils, parents and teachers.

● *The author is the Secretary of State for Education and Employment.*

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Further details and application forms are available from the Personnel Office, Highfield House, The University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Tel: 0115 951 3260. Fax: 0115 951 5215. Email: Tanya.Robinson@Nottingham.ac.uk.

Please quote ref. MCM/065. Closing date: 15 May 1998.

هكذا من الأصل

RACING

Crimson Tide can come in for Hills

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

WHEN Chris Wright is not busying himself with the fortunes of Queen Park Rangers, Wasps or the Sheffield Sharks, he likes a day at the races — and the head of Chrysalis Group will be particularly interested in the feature race at Sandown this afternoon. Not only is his record company sponsoring the Anniversary Mile (3.10). Wright is trying to recoup some of the outlay with Crimson Tide.

The John Hills-trained colt was considered a potential Derby horse last year but immaturity prevented him from beginning to fulfil his potential until the end of the season, when he won group races in Germany and Italy.

Those successes came on very soft ground, so he should not mind the prevailing going at Sandown. Hills, whose horses are in fine form, said yesterday: "Crimson Tide has done well over the winter and we are very happy with him. He goes on the ground and is fit."

Muchea, winner of the Gladness Stakes on heavy ground at the Curragh 19 days ago, is one for the shortlist but this extra furlong will test his



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

stamina. Polar Prince won the Diomed Stakes at Epsom last season but is unproven on this ground and **Crimson Tide** can prove the latest hit for Chrysalis and Wright.

I'm Proposin made a winning debut on soft ground at Leicester 15 days ago when beating the odds-on Hitman with the third more than 20 lengths away. He looks capable of following up in the Polygram Conditions Stakes (2.05), in which he faces just three rivals.

After winning the City and Suburban Handicap at Epsom on Wednesday, Rod Millman will be hopeful of capturing another valuable prize in the Tony Stratton-Smith Memorial Handicap (2.35) with the mud-loving *Therhea. He was a good third* to Yabint El Sultan in the Ladbrokes Spring Cup last Saturday and ran well twice at Sandown last season.

It would be no surprise to see Queen's Pageant leave her previous form behind on this ground. She should relish these conditions but, in a tight handicap, I just prefer **Gulf Shaadi**, who failed by only a stride to beat Tumbleweed Ridge at Newmarket nine days ago. That was over seven furlongs and today's longer trip will suit.

Whitechapel may be ten but he has lost none of his enthusiasm and looks fairly treated in the Heathorns Handicap (3.40). Like his half-brother, Rutland Chantry, he likes the mud. Most of his victories have come over 1½ miles but he stayed two miles well when winning at Newbury last October and reappears off only *a 2lb higher mark. The biggest* danger could be Invermark, who finished well at Newmarket last time over 1½ miles.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: CRIMSON TIDE
(3.10 Sandown Park)
Next best: Whitechapel
(3.40 Sandown Park)

Results, page 49

LUDLOW

THUNDERER
5.30 Sahhar. 6.00 Coolteen Hero. 6.30 Welsh Silk. 7.00 Just One Question. 7.30 Grimley Gale. 8.00 George Bull.

Carl Evans: 7.30 Grimley Gale.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

5.30 SHROPSHIRE STAR NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,725: 2m) (17 runners)

1 5661 HOTSPUR STREET 30 (B,G) E James 6-11-6 Miss S Samworth (7)
2 40-P GENERAL MONTY 20 Mrs A E Johnson 6-11-0 D Byrne
3 PF/P PARK RIDGE 28 N Lampard 6-11-0 T J Murphy
4 0P0F PLUVIUS 30 C Hensley 6-11-0 K Hartnett (7)
5 4-6 SAHHAR 31 P Bevan 5-11-0 W Worthington
6 STAR WITNESS 46F A Newcombe 6-11-0 J Goldstein (5)
7 -000 A BIT OF FLUFF 31 R J Price 6-10-9 A P McCarthy
8 00 SAPHANE 30 S Brookshaw 5-10-9 R Bellamy
9 30 DON'T WORRY MIKE 34 J Spearing 4-10-8 C Llewellyn
10 4 PARDAN 11 B Palling 4-10-8 W Marston
11 404P SEFTON BLAKE 13 (V) M Meagher 4-10-8 A Thornton
12 0 SUMMERVILLE WOOD 31 A Forbes 4-10-8 T Eley
13 P302 CADBURY CASTLE 11 G Charles-Jones 4-10-3 L Cummins (5)
14 06F COCHITI 22 P Hiatt 4-10-3 E Husband (3)
15 P KAYZEE 13F D Burchell 4-10-3 Mr C R Weaver (7)
16 KEY TO 41F G McCourt 4-10-3 R Studholme (5)
17 0P5 MARX MISTRESS 31 (V) J O'Shea 4-10-3 V Slattery
11-4 Cadbury Castle, 9-2 Hotspur Street, 5-1 Sefton Blake, Sahhar, 8-1 others.

6.00 BROMFIELD SAND & GRAVEL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,850: 2m 4f) (6)

1 5U33 MISTER DRUM 16 (D,F,G,S) M Wilkinson 9-12-0 W Marston
2 F323 COOLTEEN HERO 27 (F,G,S) R Alner 8-11-10 A Thornton
3 PPPP MAPLE DANCER 20 (D,F,G,S) D Williams 12-11-8 P Henley (3)
4 123F MR STRONG GALE 23 (B,CD,F,G) P Nicholls 7-11-7 T J Murphy
5 -PP3 JACOB'S WIFE 30 (D,G) P R Webber 8-11-5 C Llewellyn
6 11FP SIERRA BAY 11 (BF,S) O Sherwood 8-11-3 J A McCarthy
2-1 Mr Strong Gale, 5-2 Sierra Bay, 7-2 Coolteen Hero, 5-1 Mister Drum, 12-1 Jacob's Wife, 20-1 Maple Dancer.

6.30 HILLS OF SHREWSBURY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,885: 2m 5f 110yd) (9)

1 1114 NATIVE SHORE 125 (F,G,S) C Mann 6-12-0 Mr K R O'Ryan (7)
2 6114 MADAM MUCK 27 (BF,CD,G) N T-Davies 7-11-3 C Llewellyn
3 46R3 EXALTED 34 (F) W Jenks 5-10-13 Gary Lyons
4 6353 CHURCHTOWN GLEN 16 (G) S Brookshaw 5-10-13 T J Murphy
5 3021 WONTCOSTALOTBUT 11 (S) M Wilkinson 4-10-11 W Marston
6 1435 SIBERIAN MYSTIC 41 (G) P Murphy 5-10-9 L Aspell (3)
7 3F2F BAYERD 11 (F,G,S) J O'Shea 7-10-8 A Thornton
8 4346 WELSH SILK 9 (D,G,S) D Gandolfo 6-10-7 G Bradley
9 P540 FALMOUTH BAY 39 (B,G,S) O Sherwood 9-10-7 J A McCarthy
9-4 Madam Muck, 100-30 Churchtown Glen, 11-2 Wontcostalotbut, 10-1 others

7.00 ARROW MEDICAL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,200: 3m) (10)

1 P334 CROSS THE RUBICON 11 (B) C Brooks 7-11-10 G Bradley
2 3511 SAMMORELLO 37 (D,F,G,S) N T-Davies 7-11-6 C Llewellyn
3 2264 WINNOW 31 (BF,G,S) Miss H Knight 8-11-3 J Culloty
4 F430 SUPER RITCHART 11 (G,S) B Palling 10-11-3 W Marston
5 P024 HARDY WEATHER 20 (D,G) D Gandolfo 9-11-1 T J Murphy
6 6P2F JUST ONE QUESTION 37 (G) J J O'Neill 8-11-0 A Thornton
7 /0PP CALL ME CITIZEN 11 (V,D,F,G) R Curtis 12-10-4 J Leech
8 05U0 BORO HILL 37 (CD,G) Miss P Whittle 9-10-3 Mr R Wakley (3)
9 /FP5 LANLAU 11 (B) T George 9-10-0 V Slattery
10 453F JEMARO 30 W Jenks 7-10-0 Gary Lyons
9-4 Sammorello, 5-1 Winnow, 6-1 Just One Question, 7-1 Boro Hill, 10-1 others.

7.30 LORD PORTMAN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,725: 2m 4f) (14)

1 -11U BLUE CHEEK 21 (CD,F,G,S) G Mahon 12-12-7 M Harris (7)
2 4-P3 FOX POINTER 11P (G,S) Mrs Evans 13-12-7 Miss E James (7)
3 1-41 NODFORM WONDER 28P (D,B,S) R Bevis 11-12-7 R Bevis (7)
4 4141 GRIMLEY GALE 16 (C,F,G,S) M Jackson 9-12-2 A Wintle (7)
5 0-PP AGANEROT 33P J Young 8-12-0 James Young (7)
6 /251 AUBURN CASTLE 34P (F,S) M Biddick 9-12-0 Jeremy Young (7)
7 PPPF CULPEPPERS DISH 40P (F) K Wynne 7-12-0 R Burton (7)
8 1-12 HAVEN LIGHT 11P (F,S) Miss K Spencer 11-12-0 A Dalton (7)
9 55BP PANT LLIN 11P (B,F) F Matthews 12-12-0 M FitzGerald (7)
10 P434 PARLIAMENT HALL 27P (D,S) J Thomas 12-12-0 S Lloyd (7)
11 P036 SCOTONI 23 (D,F,G) J R Salaam 12-12-0 S Joynes (7)
12 32-4 SHAARID 30 (D,F,G) R J Houghton 10-12-0 R Wakley (3)
13 -PPP STONEYISLAND 33P Mrs A Price 9-12-0 C R Weaver (7)
14 0505 WARNER FORPLEASURE 6P (F) E Lee 12-12-0 J R Barlow (7)
6-4 Grimley Gale, 4-1 Nodform Wonder, Blue Cheek, Auburn Castle, 10-1 others.

8.00 SCHLITZ HURDLE (£2,565: 2m) (10)

1 1421 GEORGE BULL 27 (D,G,S) T Forster 6-11-12 A Thornton
2 -351 VICAR'S VASE 11 (D,S) K Bailey 5-11-1 Mr R Wakley (3)
3 33PP BUCKALOON 44 W Brisbourne 6-11-0 J Culloty
4 00- FERRINO FRUITS 42S N Twiston-Davies 7-11-0 C Llewellyn
5 6 GILLEEN LAD 44 J Upson 6-11-0 G Supple (5)
6 0 MIXED OPINION 43 C Jackson 6-11-0 R Bellamy
7 3PP SUNUVUGUN 49 O Sherwood 6-11-0 J A McCarthy
8 2 TIME FOR ACTION 10 C Mann 6-11-0 J Magee (3)
9 83 FLOWING FORTUNE 11 T Forster 4-10-8 W Marston
10 B0 MISTY RAIN 46 J Spearing 4-10-1 E Husband (3)
4-7 George Bull, 5-1 Vicar's Vase, 7-1 Time For Action, 10-1 Sunuvugun, 14-1 Flowing Fortune, 25-1 Ferrino Fruits, 33-1 Buckaloon, Gilleen Lad, 50-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

LUDLOW: Trainers: J J O'Neill, 4 winners from 10 runners, 40.0%. R Curtis, 5 from 20, 25.0%, K Bailey, 18 from 77, 23.4%. Jockeys: A Wintle, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; R Wakley, 3 from 15, 20.0%, T J Murphy, 3 from 18, 16.7%.

TAUNTON: Trainers: V Greenway, 3 winners from 12 runners, 25.0%. N Henderson, 7 from 29, 24.1%; M Pipe, 40 from 203, 19.7%. Jockeys: J Tizzard, 6 winners from 20 rides, 30.0%; R Johnson, 3 from 24, 12.5%; J R Kavanagh, 4 from 34, 11.8%, M A Fitzgerald, 7 from 60, 11.7%.

TAUNTON

THUNDERER
5.40 Dunraven Lady. 6.10 Fortunes Rose. 6.40 Wayward King. 7.10 Knight Templar. 7.40 General Pongo. 8.10 Asking.

GOING: SOFT SIS

5.40 ORCHARD RESTAURANT HANDICAP HURDLE (Amateur riders: £1,917: 2m 3f) (14 runners)

1 0545 DUNRAVEN LADY 23 D Brace 6-11-10 Miss P Jones
2 P2P SARASOTA STORM 45 R Frost 6-11-7 Mr A Holdsworth (7)
3 UPF0 BARTON SCAMP 58 D Williams 6-11-5 Mr Edgar Byrne (7)
4 0541 SAAF 11 (B,D,G,S) R Baker 7-11-1 (7ex) Mr S Durack (3)
5 022U EMPEROR BUCK 16 (F) D Nicholson 10-10-13 Mr H Hankey (7)
6 /534 B MY LOVELY 72 D O'Neill 8-10-11 Mr J Crowley (7)
7 3210 DUBAI DOLLY 182 (BF,F) J Mullins 5-10-10 Mr J D Moore (7)
8 0202 DIGITAL OPTION 11 J Spearing 4-10-7 Miss T Spearing (7)
9 -PP0 TREAD THE BOARDS 10 (B) B Llewellyn 7-10-2 Miss E Jones (7)
10 P0/F PARTY BEDLAM 47P E L James 9-10-0 Mr M Walters (7)
11 50-P NOTED STRAIN 29 R Baker 10-10-0 Miss K Di Marte (7)
12 P54- GEMINI MIST 387 Mrs P Dutfield 7-10-0 Mr L Jefford (7)
13 0000 SWEETLY DISPOSED 11 C Jones 10-10-0 Miss B Small (7)
14 3000 SEE PROSPERITY 50 Miss S Waterman 6-10-0 Mr W Degnan (7)
3-1 Saaf, 4-1 Emperor Buck, 6-1 Sarasota Storm, Dunraven Lady, 7-1 others.

6.10 TAUNTON RACECOURSE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,595: 2m 3f 110yd) (9)

1 6000 FABULON 38 (F) M Pipe 5-12-0 J Huet (7)
2 210- CASHFLOW CRISIS 548 (D,F) J Mullins 6-11-11 D Turner (7)
3 4523 NIGHT TIME 4F (F,G) H Howe 6-11-9 G Shenkin (5)
4 022F WOODSTOCK WANDERER 39 P Bowen 6-11-0 R Johnson
5 2P56 FORTUNES ROSE 22 (B) J King 6-10-7 A Bates (5)
6 0/0F ROSEVEAR 45 S Mellor 6-10-6 C Webb (3)
7 35-3 LASER LIGHT LADY 30 M Warlon 6-10-5 J R Kavanagh
8 0P30 REMEMBER STAR 10 A D Smith 5-10-0 Mr S Durack (3)
9 -F05 FRANKIE HARRY 18 A Carroll 6-10-0 A Scholes (7)
6-4 Fabulon, 4-1 Woodstock Wanderer, 6-1 Fortunes Rose, Night Time, 8-1 others.

6.40 PETER & SYBIL BLACKBURN MEMORIAL TROPHY (Novices chase: £3,912: 2m 3f) (5)

1 13P3 WAYWARD KING 11 (G,S) R Hodges 6-11-7 T Dascombe
2 P0P3 PERRIK LARK 20 R Brotherton 8-11-0 S Curran
3 /6-F THE CAMPDONIAN 30 D O'Neill 7-11-0 S Burrough
4 3323 THOMAS CROWN 30 D Williams 6-11-0 Mr S Durack (3)
5 2345 KILLONE RIVER 20P (S) R Alner 6-10-9 Mr J D Moore (7)
2-5 Wayward King, 7-1 Thomas Crown, 8-1 Killone River, 12-1 others.

7.10 SOMERSET NUFFIELD HOSPITAL NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,432: 3m) (13)

1 01 KNIGHT TEMPLAR 18 (G) P Nicholls 5-11-7 M A Fitzgerald
2 2PP2 ST MELLION LEISURE 119 (F) N Hawke 6-11-7 R Greene
3 FP16 ACCOUNTANCY LADY 27 (G) M Pipe 6-11-2 J Lower
4 0PF0 ANOTHER BULA 39 H Howe 7-11-0 G Shenkin (5)
5 1-00 DUKESTOWN 159 (D,G) G Balding 6-11-0 B Clifford
6 -PPP DUNBECKS WELL 11 F Tucker 9-11-0 S Burrough
7 P443 IVORY COASTER 11 B De Haan 7-11-0 R Johnson
8 PP60 LISAHANE OATS 43 A Barrow 8-11-0 T Dascombe
9 00FP MOST VITAL 48 W G M Turner 7-11-0 J Power (7)
10 UFP5 SANDS POINT 10 (B) C Popham 8-11-0 A Bates (5)
11 005 SWISS SILVER 11 P Wegmann 5-11-0 G F Ryan (5)
12 3006 REDHANDED 139 D Brace 7-10-9 Miss P Jones
13 RIVERGIRL M Pipe 7-10-9 A Maguire
6-4 Knight Templar, 5-2 Accountancy Lady, 5-1 Rivergirl, Ivory Coaster, 8-1 others.

7.40 SOMERSET NUFFIELD HOSPITAL HANDICAP HASE (£3,615: 3m) (5)

1 31PR DAMAS 20 (B,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-12-0 T Dascombe
2 F2FU GENERAL PONGO 38 (G,S) P R Webber 9-11-12 R Johnson
3 F1FP MR PLAYFULL 30 (F,G,S) R Frost 8-11-4 J Frost
4 21-2 SOME DAY SOON 35 (F) M Bradstock 13-11-0 A Maguire
5 PP32 SPACE CAPPA 22 (B,S) Miss Stephens 10-10-0 Miss V Stephens
7-4 Some Day Soon, 11-4 General Pongo, 3-1 Damas, 7-1 Mr Playfull, 8-1 Space Cappa.

8.10 RED CROSS & ST JOHN HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,092: 2m 1f) (12)

1 135F WINSFORD HILL 153 (D,F,G) I Williams 7-11-12 R Johnson
2 1U32 ERLKING 6F (BF,D,G,S) S Mellor 8-11-7 C Webb (3)
3 -255 CLOSE HARMONY 42 N Henderson 6-11-4 M A Fitzgerald
4 4030 SAILEP 30 (D,S) R Hodges 6-11-2 T Dascombe
5 0014 BLADE OF FORTUNE 30 (S) V Greenway 10-11-2 Mr J Tizzard (5)
6 2/52 ASKING 10 (D,F) M Bradstock 6-11-0 A Maguire
7 P504 JOVIE KING 63 (F,G) R Beckley 6-11-0 G Hogan
8 0P/3 DUELLO 18 M Blanshard 7-11-0 J R Kavanagh
9 334U ALMAPA 92 (CD,F) R Hodges 6-10-12 Mr J Crowley (7)
10 0621 BLUE BLAZER 37 (S) R Frost 8-10-9 J Frost
11 5FPP WHISTLING BUCK 29 (S) B Llewellyn 10-10-0 Miss E J Jones
12 026- KETCHICAN 357 S Knight 6-10-0 D Salter (3)
3-1 Erlking, 7-2 Blue Blazer, 9-2 Asking, 6-1 Close Harmony, 8-1 others.

☐ Richard Guest has handed in his licence after being referred to the stewards of the Jockey Club at Perth yesterday. Guest was found to have been in breach of the rules for his riding of This Is My Life, tenth in the selling hurdle. The rider threw his riding licence through the door to the stewards' room. "I've retired," he said.

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Carlisle

TRAINERS: M Channon, 15 winners from 29 runners, 51.7%; M Bell, 3 from 7, 42.9%; M Tompkins, 5 from 19, 26.3%, Mrs J M Ramsden, 11 from 49, 22.4%, Mrs M Reveley, 13 from 58, 22.4%, R Fahey, 4 from 19, 21.1%. JOCKEYS: C Lowther, 4 winners from 10 rides, 40.0%. R Winston, 4 from 12, 33.3%, T Lucas, 3 from 11, 27.3%, K Darley, 19 from 103, 18.4%, J Weaver, 10 from 61, 16.4%, A Culhane, 7 from 44, 15.9%.

Perth

TRAINERS: P Hobbs, 16 winners from 33 runners, 48.5%. N Twiston-Davies, 7 from 17, 41.2%. Mrs M Reveley, 22 from 60, 36.7%, Mrs S Smith, 4 from 13, 30.8%; K Bailey, 11 from 38, 28.9%. J FitzGerald, 6 from 21, 28.6% JOCKEYS: P Niven, 24 winners from 77 rides, 31.2%, A Dobbin, 19 from 80, 23.8%; R Garritty, 13 from 55, 23.6% N Williamson, 9 from 39, 23.1%, P Carberry, 10 from 44, 22.7%.

Sandown Park

TRAINERS: C Wall, 5 winners from 23 runners, 21.7%, P Chapple-Hyam, 6 from 30, 20.0%, M Johnston, 9 from 47, 19.1%, M Stoute, 23 from 124, 18.5%, J Fanshawe, 11 from 60, 18.3%, J Dunlop, 18 from 104, 17.3%. JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery, 51 from 223, 22.9%; L Dettori, 48 from 211, 22.7%, K Fallon, 11 from 60, 18.3%; M Hills, 14 from 107, 13.1%, J Reid, 24 from 195, 12.3%; D Harrison, 9 from 80, 11.3%.

Warwick

TRAINERS: T Casey, 5 winners from 17 runners, 29.4%. O Sherwood, 10 from 41, 24.4%, M Pipe, 27 from 112, 24.1%, Mrs J Pitman, 15 from 71, 21.1%, T Forster, 8 from 56, 14.3%. C Brooks, 5 from 37, 13.5%; N Twiston-Davies, 10 from 85, 11.8%. JOCKEYS: A P McCoy, 21 winners from 50 rides, 42.0%, R Dunwoody, 21 from 63, 33.3%, R Farrant, 9 from 52, 17.3%. X Aizpuru, 4 from 29, 13.8%. Only qualifiers

PERTH

THUNDERER
2.15 Ballydavid. 2.45 Ifallelsefails. 3.20 Bertone. 3.50 Course Doctor. 4.20 Eid. 4.55 Mystere. 5.25 Little Fencote.

GOING GOOD TO SOFT
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.15 EVENING EXPRESS NATIONAL HUNT MAIDEN HURDLE (£3,808: 2m 110yd) (15 runners)

101 0-30 BALLYDAVID 36 J Howard Johnson 6-11-1 P Carberry 108
102 156P CAMDEN MOON 42 (D,G) J Hanson 5-11-1 L Wyer 97
103 00 CHARLIE D'OR 137 J Dodds 5-11-1 Mr L Temple (7) –
104 33-P HANDSOME ANTHONY 136 (G) C Moore 7-11-1 J Callaghan 97
105 64 HEADMASTER 44 (BF) F Murtagh 5-11-1 B Harding 94
106 P0P0 KATSAR 25 M Hammond 6-11-1 R Garritty 60
107 00 KING'S COUNTRY 45 N Mason 6-11-1 –
108 5465 MINISIOUX 7 P Monteith 5-11-1 A Dobbin –
109 PORTER PADDY L Lungo 6-11-1 R Supple –
110 4340 WOODFIELD GALE 32 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-1 P Niven –
111 004F FINER FEELINGS 56 Mrs D Thomson 6-10-10 L O'Hara 96
112 600 LA BRIGANTINE 23 R Buckler 5-10-10 Mr C Bonner (3) –
113 UPPP SINGING PROFIT 26P W Young 6-10-10 B Storey –
114 PP SUITAFELLA 11 M Barnes 6-10-10 S Taylor (3) –
115 4F00 THE LADY SCORES 27 K Bailey 6-10-10 N Williamson 85
4-1 The Lady Scores, 9-2 Woodfield Gale, 5-1 Ballydavid, 6-1 Minisioux, 7-1 Headmaster, 8-1 Camden Moon, 10-1 Porter Paddy, 12-1 others

2.45 SCOT-ADS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,825: 2m 4f 110yd) (15)

201 U604 IFALLELSEFAILS 25 (CD,G,S) L Lungo 10-11-13 W Dowling (6) 114
202 1FF0 THIS IS MY LIFE 1 (F,G) Miss K Milligan 9-11-10 – 105
203 4256 TRIENNIUM 74 (BF,F,G) P Monteith 9-11-10 I Jardine (8) 109
204 1224 FURETTO 216 (BF,D,F,G) M Hammond 8-11-5 N Horrocks (3) 117
205 2110 CRABBIE'S PRIDE 13 (S) Mrs S Smith 5-11-3 R Wilkinson (3) 112
206 3F0- DORANS WAY 584 (D,S) M Todhunter 7-11-2 E Callaghan –
207 63-P LATIN LEADER 25 (B,D,F,G) C Parker 8-11-1 F Leahy –
208 3534 MONKEY WENCH 55 (D,F) Mrs J Goodfellow 7-10-2 N Hannity (5) 115
209 -P25 RUBER 18 (D,G,S) R Thomson 11-10-0 G Lee 109
210 0P5P RAINING STAIRS 27 G Richards 7-10-0 B Harding (3) 106
211 4-55 NORTH PRIDE 52 (C,F,S) M Barnes 13-10-0 S Taylor (3) 109
212 3635 HIGHFIELD PET 11 C Grant 5-10-0 B Grattan 101
213 0338 MIDDLE BAY 36 D Moffatt 7-10-0 M Gault (8) 98
214 605 RIBBONLETTA 133 J Goldie 4-10-0 R McGrath 108
215 0600 BARNSTORMER 111 (B,F,D) E Elliott 12-10-0 M H Naughton 106
3-1 Crabbie's Pride, 6-1 Ifallelsefails, Raining Stairs, 7-1 Furetto, 8-1 Triennium, 10-1 Highfield Pet, Middle Bay, 12-1 others.

3.20 PRESS & JOURNAL HANDICAP CHASE (£8,263: 3m) (6)

301 1131 BERTONE 16 (D,F,G,S) K Bailey 9-12-0 N Williamson 145
302 2113 DAVY BLAKE 11 (D,F,G,S) T Dalgetty 11-10-1 A S Smith 147
303 4211 BLUE CHARM 21 (S) S Bradburne 8-10-0 M Bradburne (5) 135
304 21U5 NICHOLAS PLANT 7 (F,S) J Goldie 9-10-0 S Taylor (3) 129
305 4368 JUDICIOUS CAPTAIN 13 (G,S) Mrs Storey 11-10-0 Mr C Storey 131
306 -540 STONEY BURKE 13 (B,G) Miss L Russell 9-10-0 T Reed 113
11-10 Bertone, 5-2 Blue Charm, 3-1 Davy Blake, 12-1 Nicholas Plant, 33-1 Judicious Captain, 66-1 Stoney Burke.

3.50 PRESS & JOURNAL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,744: 2m 4f 110yd) (14)

401 4P14 BROTHER OF IRIS 42 (D,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-10 P Niven 115
402 1121 MY SHENANDOAH 55 (D,G,S) J H Johnson 7-11-9 A S Smith 109
403 5321 BELLE BUSK 242 (S) Mrs S Smith 6-11-3 – 116
404 -501 JACK ROBBO 13 (S) J FitzGerald 6-11-2 P Carberry 108
405 0861 COURSE DOCTOR 13 (D,S) G M Moore 6-11-1 J Callaghan 111
406 2311 COTTSTOWN BOY 2 (C,G) Mrs S Bradburne 7-11-1 (6ex) Mr M Bradburne (5) 135
407 -113 STORM CALL 18 (S) D Whelans 7-10-10 I Jardine (7) 137
408 3-03 NIZAAL 13 M Hammond 7-10-8 R Garritty 118
409 0542 SOUTHERN CROSS 10 (B,S) M W Easterby 6-10-2 A Dobbin 122
410 6400 GLEVUM 27 N Twiston-Davies 6-10-0 C Maude 108
411 3203 SAN FRANCISCO 28 A Whillans 4-10-0 B Harding 114
412 -464 SUNRISE SENSATION 18 R McDonald 5-10-0 R Supple 111
413 -400 MY BUSTER 55 Miss K Milligan 6-10-0 L Wyer 98
414 5452 MORE CHAMPAGNE 28 (G) Mrs D Thomson 8-10-0 D Parker 107
5-1 My Shenandoah, 6-1 Brother Of Iris, Cottstown Boy, 7-1 Storm Call, 8-1 Jack Robbo, Course Doctor, Southern Cross. 12-1 others.

4.20 PRESS & JOURNAL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,822: 3m) (15)

501 2113 PUREVALUE 20 (BF,D,F,G,S) M W Easterby 7-12-0 R Garritty 117
502 2F4P DORLIN CASTLE 11 (S) L Lungo 10-11-5 R Supple 122
503 212P SWING QUARTET 49 (D,F,G) N T-Davies 8-11-4 C Maude 116
504 6-1 MASTER CHET 114 (S) Miss V Williams 8-11-1 N Williamson 108
505 21-2 EID 301 (BF,F,G) Mrs S Smith 9-10-13 – 111
506 53U3 BOLD STATEMENT 16 (F,G,S) T Forster 6-10-9 P Carberry 109
507 P3P5 SOLSGIRTH 11 (G,S) J Barclay 7-10-7 L Wyer 116
508 355P TOUR LEADER 30 (D,F,G) R Buckler 9-10-7 B Harding 100
509 006F NOBLE NORMAN 25 (G) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-3 P Niven –
510 1F30 SAXON MEAD 151 (C,F) P Hobbs 8-10-2 A Dobbin 104
511 4P41 BROADWATER BOY 35 (G) M Hammond 10-10-0 Mr C Bonner (3) 101
512 0001 GALE FORCE 11 (S) P Beaumont 7-10-0 (5ex) B Grattan (5) 109
513 -P00 WOODFORD GALE 11 Miss L Russell 8-10-0 M Foster 100
514 64FP TONY'S FEELINGS 11 (D,F) Mrs D Thomson 10-10-0 B Storey 97
515 26PU ARISTODEMUS 1 Mrs L Marshall 9-10-0 K Johnson –
5-1 Master Chet, 6-1 Purevalue, 7-1 Bold Statement, Gale Force, 8-1 Dorlin Castle, Swing Quartet, Broadwater Boy. 12-1 others

4.55 ABERDEEN HERALD & POST STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div I: £2,080: 2m 110yd) (14)

601 122 PERCY PARKEEPER 27 (BF,D,S) N T-Davies 5-11-11 C Maude –
602 21 PETERSEN HOUSE 52 (D,S) G M Moore 4-11-5 T Hogg (7) –
603 DEVONSHIRE Miss V Williams 5-11-4 P Carberry –
604 206 EXCURSION 32 J Hanson 5-11-4 L Wyer –
605 GIFTED GILBERT L Lungo 5-11-4 W Dowling (7) –
606 GREAT POTENTIAL P Beaumont 6-11-4 R Supple –
607 0 AYEKNOWSO 59 Mrs D Thomson 5-10-13 D Parker –
608 COMMANCHE TRIX J J O'Neill 5-10-13 R McGrath (3) –
609 33 FROSTY LIGHT 11 P Beaumont 5-10-13 B Grattan (5) –
610 05 GLACIAL PRINCESS 25 Mrs M Reveley 5-10-13 P Niven –
611 6 JUST LIZZIE 11 R Nixon 5-10-13 T Siddall (7) –
612 0 MYSTERE 119 K Bailey 5-10-13 N Williamson –
613 PAMPERED GALE M Hammond 4-10-12 R Garritty –
614 0 SON OF SAM 32 C Grant 4-10-12 B Storey –
5-2 Percy Parkeeper, 5-1 Petersen House, 6-1 Devonshire, 10-1 Excursion, Frosty Light, Glacial Princess, Mystere, 12-1 others

5.25 ABERDEEN HERALD & POST STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (Div II: £2,066: 2m 110yd) (14)

1 12 ROCHEBURG 41 (BF,D,G) F Murtagh 5-11-11 A Dobbin –
2 0 BALLINA BOY 76 J FitzGerald 5-11-4 F Leahy (3) –
3 60 PRANCING BLADE 85 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4 C Maude –
4 RED HOT INDIAN L Lungo 5-11-4 R Supple –
5 THE GARDENER K Bailey 5-11-4 N Williamson –
6 0 MARISOL 211 P Monteith 5-10-13 I Jardine (7) –
7 0 STORMYROYALE 41 Miss L Russell 6-10-13 M Foster –
8 GALINDO J Howard Johnson 4-10-12 A S Smith –
9 GRIMALDI LAD M Hammond 4-10-12 R Garritty –
10 ICONIC M Todhunter 4-10-12 B Harding –
11 4 JOLLY MINSTER 32 Mrs M Reveley 4-10-12 P Niven –
12 LITTLE FENCOTE P Beaumont 4-10-12 B Grattan (5) –
13 201 NOSHINANNIKIN 52 (BF) M W Easterby 4-10-12 P Carberry –
14 SOLWAY ROSE J J O'Neill 4-10-7 L Cooper (7) –
3-1 Noshinannikin, 5-1 Rocheburg, 6-1 The Gardener, 7-1 Jolly Minster, 8-1 Iconic, 10-1 Solway Rose. 12-1 others.

WARWICK

THUNDERER
5.20 Cedar Square. 5.50 Cool As A Cucumber. 6.20 Wesley's Lad. 6.50 Pimberley Place. 7.20 Brighstone. 7.50 Country Minstrel.

Carl Evans: 5.20 Cedar Square.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN BACK STRAIGHT) SIS
7.45AM INSPECTION

5.20 WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE TROPHY (Hunter chase: amateurs: £1,059: 2m 4f 110yd) (5 runners)

1 3310 DALAMETRE 11 (G,S) M Evans 11-12-5 M Munrowd (7)
2 30P/ ALL GOLD BOY 1445 T M Jones 13-12-0 B Hamiss (7)
3 /F-P CEDAR SQUARE 97P (F,S) V Dartnall 7-12-0 J Jukes (5)
4 5112 JACK THE TD 11 (BF,G,S) J Cornwall 9-12-0 J R Cornwall (7)
5 3 RACHEL'S BOY 26P J L Brown 5-11-7 D S Jones (7)
5-4 Jack The Td, 5-2 Cedar Square, 3-1 Dalametre, 12-1 Rachel's Boy, 16-1 All Gold Boy.

5.50 ALDERMINSTER HANDICAP CHASE (£2,916: 2m) (9)

1 12F2 PARLIAMENTARIAN 24 (D,G,S) T Casey 9-11-10 D Gallagher
2 5141 ROVESTAR 11 (B,D,G,S) C Popham 7-11-10 (7ex) R Farrant
3 3245 MAN MOOD 52 (B,S) C Brooks 7-11-5 S McNeill
4 3235 WHO'S TO SAY 11 (CD,G,S) P Pritchard 12-11-6 Dr P Pritchard
5 126- QUICK QUOTE 356 (D,F,G) Mrs I McKie 8-11-2 R Thornton
6 0326 NORTHERN SADDLER 11 (D,G,S) R Hodges 11-10-13 R Dunwoody
7 -42P CRAFTY CHAPLAIN 251 (D,G,S) D McCain 12-10-12 S Wynne
8 3F11 COOL AS A CUCUMBER 11 (S) O Sherwood 7-10-10 (7ex) M Richards
9 3031 O MY LOVE 50 (D,G) N Babbage 7-10-0 B Fenton
3-1 Rovestar, 7-2 Cool As A Cucumber, 4-1 Parliamentarian, 7-1 Northern Saddler, 8-1 O My Love, 10-1 Man Mood, 12-1 Who's To Say, 14-1 others.

CARLISLE

THUNDERER
2.25 Saphire. 2.55 High Premium. 3.30 Miss Salsa Dancer. 4.00 Tertium. 4.30 Hollow Haze. 5.05 Mukarrab.

Newmarket Correspondent: 4.30 STRACHINI (nap).

GOING GOOD DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH BEST SIS

2.25 BUZZARD MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,196: 5f) (18 runners)

1 CALLITWHATYOUWANT J J O'Neill 9-0 R French 9
2 EFFANDEMM Miss L Perratt 9-0 J Weaver 16
3 4 KALAHARI FERRARI 16 J Berry 9-0 K Darley 8
4 LOUGHANLEA M W Easterby 9-0 T Lucas 2
5 MASTER TIROL R Fahey 9-0 R Winston (5) 15
6 RED PRAIRIE M Bell 9-0 M Fenton 1
7 RICH DOMINION J Bethell 9-0 G Duffield 13
8 RIVERSIDE JACK C Fairhurst 9-0 C Lowther (3) 11
9 3 SAMMAL 27 J Glover 9-0 J Fortune 12
10 3 ZIRCON 13 M Channon 9-0 R Perham 6
11 6 DILETTO 13 E Alston 8-9 J Quinn 7
12 2 FIRST MUSICAL 17 M Brittain 8-9 D Mernagh (7) 15
13 FREE FINISH N Tinkler 8-9 Kim Tinkler 14
14 2 SAPHIRE 11 C Booth 8-9 A Culhane 17
15 0 SHARP RHYTHM 8 M Johnston 8-9 J Carroll 3
16 SHIFTALONG M Brittain 8-9 T Williams 10
17 5 SPENDTHEPROC-EDE'S 24 W G M Turner 8-9 D McGaffin (7) 4
18 SPRINGS NOBLEQUEST T Easterby 8-9 L Charnock 5
7-2 Zircon, 5-1 Saphire, 6-1 Sammal, First Musical, 8-1 Red Prairie, 10-1 Kalahari Ferrari, 12-1 Sharp Rhythm, 16-1 others.

2.55 KESTREL CLAIMING STAKES (£2,500: 6f 206yd) (13)

1 -100 ALAMEIN 18 (B,D,F,G) D Nicholls 5-9-7 Alex Greaves 3
2 536 MONICA'S CHOICE 41J (D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-7 A Culhane 2
3 4863 YEOMAN OLIVER 17 (B) B McMahon 5-9-3 L Newton 1
4 32-0 HIGH PREMIUM 91 (CD,F,G,S) R Fahey 10-9-13 R Winston (5) 8
5 -120 OCKER 3 (V,BF,S) M Tompkins 4-8-13 D Biggs 9
6 630 MOUNTAIN DREAM 98J R Allan 5-8-11 J Weaver 5
7 0-00 RINUS MAGIC 44 E Alston 5-8-9 J Quinn 13
8 3135 ROCKY WATERS 18 (V,D,F,G) Mrs L Stubbs 9-9-9 T Sprake 12
9 064- HYPE SUPERIOR 165 A Bailey 4-8-7 D Wright 11
10 5006 ALLINSON'S MATE 46 (B,CD,F,G,S) T Barron 10-9-5 Kimberley Hart (5) 6
11 5480 CAMBRIDGE BLUE 15 I Semple 4-8-5 A McCarthy (5) 7
12 .00- MOST WANTED 113 W McKeown 5-8-4 J Carroll 4
13 0505 BOLLERO 15 (B,CD,G,S) J Berry 4-8-0 Iona Wands (5) 10
4-1 Ocker, 5-1 Alamein, 6-1 High Premium, 7-1 Yeoman Oliver, Hype Superior, 8-1 Monica's Choice, Allinson's Mate, 10-1 others.

3.30 MERLIN HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,957: 1m 1f 61yd) (16)

1 4313 MASTER CASTER 55 (BF) Mrs J Ramsden 9-7 J Fortune 14
2 000- RIVER BEAT 247 M Tompkins 9-2 D Biggs 10
3 604- LORD OF LOVE 182 T Easterby 9-1 K Darley 13
4 000- WON'T FORGET ME 127 (F) I Semple 9-0 A McCarthy (5) 3
5 600- STRATEGIC AIR 171 E Weymes 8-13 J Quinn 5
6 60-5 MISS SALSA DANCER 15 D Smith 8-11 C Lowther (3) 9
7 0-00 GROSVENOR SPIRIT 17 P Chapple-Hyam 8-9 R Havlin (3) 4
8 500- DISCO TEX 201 M W Easterby 8-7 S Finnamore (7) 15
9 00-0 THANKS KEITH 15 J J O'Neill 8-7 R French 7
10 00-0 THE HONORABLE LADY 17 (F) M Channon 8-7 A Mackay 1
11 60-1 CELESTIAL WELCOME 20 (S) Mrs M Reveley 8-5 A Culhane 8
12 60-3 CASTLE FRIEND 16 M Hammond 8-5 J Carroll 2
13 5321 BINT NADIA 17 (D,F) Miss J Craze 8-4 T Williams 6
14 000- ORLEANS 215 T Tate 8-4 T Lucas 16
15 0066 SHARWAY LADY 4 (B) B McMahon 8-2 L Newton 11
16 05-5 TOM 20 J Hetherton 8-1 N Kennedy 12
4-1 Master Caster, 5-1 Celestial Welcome, 7-1 Castle Friend, 8-1 Bint Nadia, 10-1 Lord Of Love, 12-1 Grosvenor Spirit, Thanks Keith, 14-1 others.

4.00 EAGLE HANDICAP (£3,566: 1m) (12)

1 216- DR MARTENS 203 (D,F) L Cumani 4-10-0 O Urbina 12
2 030- HIGH SPIRITS 188 (D,F,S) T Easterby 4-9-6 R Winston (5) 7
3 446- BRAVE MONTGOMERIE 279 (F) Miss L Perratt 4-9-5 G Duffield 5
4 216- OPULENT 272 (BF,D,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-5 A Culhane 9
5 0-11 NIGHT OF GLASS 7 (B,D,F,G,S) J Eyre 5-9-5 (6ex) K Darley 6
6 -043 TERTIUM 20 (BF,D,F) N Littmoden 6-9-3 A McCarthy (5) 3
7 000- PRIDE OF PENDLE 188 (D,F,G,S) M Wane 9-9-3 J Carroll 8
8 2010 MOZAMBIQUE 11 (D,S) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-2 R French 2
9 20-0 BRAVEHEART 11 (G) M Channon 4-9-2 A Mackay 4
10 604- GYMCRAK PREMIERE 172 (BF,CD,F,G,S) G Holmes 10-8-9 J Fortune 10
11 40-4 BARRESBO 17 (G) C Fairhurst 4-8-8 J Weaver 1
12 62-2 STORMLESS 20 (D,F,G,S) J Goldie 7-8-3 J Bramhill 11
5-1 Night Of Glass, 6-1 Stormless, 7-1 High Spirits, 8-1 Dr Martens, Opulent, Mozambique, 10-1 Pride Of Pendle, Braveheart, 12-1 others

4.30 SPARROW HAWK MAIDEN STAKES (£3,566: 7f 214yd) (14)

1 MADMUN M Tregoning 4-9-11 T Sprake 5
2 26-2 STRACHIN 16 L Cumani 4-9-11 R Ffrench 9
3 03- BRAVE NOBLE 178 E Dunlop 3-8-11 J Fortune 14
4 0-0 GINNER MORRIS 24 C Booth 3-8-11 A Culhane 4
5 344- NORTH OFTHE BORDER 168 M Johnston 3-8-11 J Carroll 1
6 PALAIS M Stoute 3-8-11 F Lynch 13
7 SOCIAL ROUND E Dunlop 3-8-11 K Darley 7
8 02- SON OF SKELTON 293 J Haldane 3-8-11 L Charnock 2
9 26- HOLLOW HAZE 208 P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-6 R Havlin (3) 11
10 SHARP BAYLE I Semple 3-8-6 G Duffield 6
11 6- SI SENORITA 279 B Mactaggart 3-8-6 J Fanning 12
12 6-0 THORNTOUN BELLE 7 J Goldie 3-8-6 Dean McKeown 10
13 0-2 WORTH THE EFFORT 23 M Tompkins 3-8-6 D Biggs 3
14 06- ZOBAIDA 188 M Jarvis 3-8-6 J Quinn 8
7-4 Hollow Haze, 4-1 Strachin, 7-1 Palais, 8-1 North Ofthe Border, 10-1 others.

5.05 PEREGRINE FALCON HANDICAP (£2,584: 5f 207yd) (20)

1 200- COURT EXPRESS 178 (CD,F) T Etherington 4-10-0 M Tebbutt 17
2 8600 DOVEBRACE 7 (D,F,G) T Barron 5-9-12 R French 5
3 631- SKYERS FLYER 264 (D,F,S) M Wane 4-9-11 J Carroll 6
4 060- MARYLEBONE 191 Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-8 D Pears 2
5 00-0 AMRON 24 (CD,F,G,S) J Berry 11-9-7 P Fessey (3) 8
6 0550 DON PEPE 74 (D,F,G,S) D Nicholls 7-9-7 Alex Greaves 20
7 000- FOIST 234 (D,G,S) M W Easterby 6-9-6 T Lucas 4
8 54-0 GOLD EDGE 24 (D,F) Enrico Incisa 4-9-4 Kim Tinkler 3
9 0803 MUKARRAB 8 D Chapman 4-9-3 A Culhane 18
10 43-0 KING UNO 24 (V,D,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-2 J Fortune 10
11 00-0 CAPTAIN CARAT 38 (D,F,G) D Chapman 7-9-1 T Williams 7
12 4116 ROYAL CASCADE 8 (B,D) B McMahon 4-9-0 L Newton 14
13 224- BOLD BRIEF 263 (F) D Smith 4-8-12 L Charnock 12
14 0-22 BIRCHWOOD SUN 3 (V,CD,F,G,S) M Dods 8-8-11 J Weaver 1
15 010- LA VOLTA 216 (B,D,F,G) Miss J Craze 5-8-11 S Webster 9
16 30-0 MISTER WESTSOUND 20 (D,G) Miss Perratt 6-8-10 N Kennedy 15
17 00-3 BIFF-EM 20 (G) Miss L Perratt 4-8-10 G Duffield 16
18 0-33 UNSHAKEN 32 (S) E Alston 4-8-10 J Quinn 19
19 2220 MUSTANG 36 (B,BF) C Thornton 5-8-10 Dale Gibson 11
20 1000 SIHAFI 8 (D) D Nicholls 5-8-7 A Nicholls (7) 13
8-1 Foist, King Uno, Unshaken, 10-1 Amron, Biff-Em, Sihafi, 12-1 Marylebone, Don Pepe, Birchwood Sun, Mister Westsound, 14-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Carlisle: 5.05 Birchwood Sun. Ludlow: 5.30 Sefton Blake, Marx Mistress. 7.00 Call Me Citizen, Lanlau. Perth: 3.20 Stoney Burke. Taunton: 6.10 Fortunes Rose

☐ The meeting at Leicester tomorrow has been abandoned because of waterlogging.

6.20 COURTYARD HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,305: 2m) (7)

1 3-23 HIGH IN THE CLOUDS 62 (BF,D,F) T Forster 6-11-12 S Wynne
2 2-P6 DANCING PADDY 16 (D,F,G,S) K C-Brown 10-11-2 B Fenton
3 2300 NOBLE LORD 74 (D,F,G) R Phillips 5-10-10 S McNeill
4 3-33 TIGHT FIST 165 (D,F,S) Miss H Knight 8-10-10 R Farrant
5 6610 KHALIDI 62 (C,D,F,G,S) D Gandolfo 9-10-6 Sophie Mitchell (3)
6 2P2- SILVER THYNE 374 (C,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-6 D Leahy
7 3151 WESLEY'S LAD 39 (S) D Burchell 4-10-5 D J Burchell
7-2 High In The Clouds, 4-1 Noble Lord, 9-2 Khalidi, Wesley's Lad, 5-1 others.

6.50 VETERANS CHASE (£4,034: 3m 2f) (3)

1 5112 PIMBERLEY PLACE 9 (B,G,S) N T-Davies 10-11-2 A P McCoy
2 30P1 ANOTHER DEADLY 29 (S) T Casey 11-10-12 M Clarke
3 1330 EARLY DRINKER 50 (G,S) O Sherwood 10-10-12 M Richards
2-9 Pimberley Place, 6-1 Another Deadly, 8-1 Early Drinker.

7.20 BARFORD SELLING HURDLE (£1,618: 2m) (5)

1 1013 BRIGHSTONE 50 (BF,D,S) M Pipe 5-11-12 A P McCoy
2 0003 BUY MY PLY 31 H Webb 5-11-0 D J Moffatt
3 0-F3 VENICE BEACH 34 R Simpson 6-11-0 B Dove (7)
4 05/2 WOODRISING 11 (D,G) C Egerton 6-10-9 R Thornton
5 P00 INTERREGNUM 53 Mrs C Hicks 4-10-3 R Farrant
10-11 Brighstone, 9-4 Woodrising, 9-2 Venice Beach, 14-1 others.

7.50 WASPERTON HURDLE (£2,975: 2m 4f) (11)

1 P3RR PHYSICAL FUN 48 A H Harvey 7-11-10 M Richards
2 2P03 COUNTRY MINSTREL 49 S Dooch 7-11-0 R Dunwoody
3 5464 HONEYBED WOOD 27 (D,F,G,S) M Sheppard 10-11-0 S Kelly (7)
4 03PF BOMBA CHARGER 37 Miss S Williams 6-10-13 O Burrows (5)
5 300P BLAZE OF SONG 4F O Wintle 6-10-11 X Aizpuru (3)
6 P402 LIATHACH 21 (BF) Lady Herries 7-10-10 P Hide
7 5556 WHERE'S MIRANDA 10 G McCourt 6-10-9 D J Moffatt
8 P4-F FAIRIES FAREWELL 43 Mrs E England 6-10-6 D Painter (7)
9 -0P0 LASTO ADREE 27 (F) G Thorner 7-10-2 L Harvey
10 F6-6 ALTHREY BLUE 118 R Peacock 9-10-0 S McNeill
11 -P40 LUCRATIVE PERK 62 Miss C Caroe 6-10-0 D Leahy
7-2 Honeybed Wood, 9-2 Country Minstrel, 5-1 Where's Miranda, 6-1 others.

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER
2.05 Bering Gifts
2.35 STAR MANAGER (nap)
3.10 Illusion
3.40 Bowcliffe Court
4.10 Mannequin
4.40 Double Choice
5.15 Strat's Quest

Timekeeper's top rating: 3.40 INVERMARK.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.10 Polar Prince. 3.40 Dovedon Star.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell P — pulled up U — unseated rider B — brought down S — slipped up R — refused D — disqualified) Horse's name Days since last outing; J if jumps. F if flat (B — blinkers V — visor H — hood E — Eyeshield. C — course winner D — distance winner CD — course and distance winner BF — beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy) Owner in brackets. Trainer Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance Timekeeper's speed rating

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) DRAW: 5F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS
7.45AM INSPECTION

2.05 POLYGRAM CONDITIONS STAKES C4
(3-Y-O: £5,143: 1m 14yd) (4 runners)

1 (3) 1 I'M PROPOSIN 15 (D,S) (N & P Cooper) J Dunlop 9-0 T Quinn 97
2 (4) 4 BELCADE 11 (G Steinberg) D Elsworth 8-10 S Drowne –
3 (1) 33- BERING GIFTS 190 (GG Partnership) P Cole 8-10 Pat Eddery 95
4 (2) MEAUX (B Voak) C Brittain 8-7 D Harrison –
BETTING: 11-10 I'm Proposin, 6-4 Bering Gifts, 7-1 Meaux, 10-1 Belcade
1997: ROMANOV 9-0 J Reid (7-2) P Chapple-Hyam 6 ran

FORM FOCUS I'm Proposin beat Hitman neck in 6-runner maiden stakes at Leicester (1m, soft). Belcade distance 4th of 6 to Raffaello in maiden stakes at Kempton (1m 3f, soft). Bering Gifts 6¾l 3rd of 22 to Border Arrow in maiden stakes at Newmarket (1m, good to soft).

I'M PROPOSIN is a tentative suggestion in a muddling heat

2.35 TONY STRATTON-SMITH MEMORIAL HANDICAP [SHOWCASE RACE] (£6,458: 1m 14yd) (10 runners) C4

1 (2) 500624- GROOM'S GORDON 172 (C,F,G) (Mrs H Focke) J Dunlop 4-9-7 Pat Eddery 107
2 (9) 1-61002 GULF SHAADI 9 (C,D,F,G) (Bibby Halliday Partnership) E Alston 6-9-7 S Sanders 115
3 (7) 02303-0 ZUGUDI 11 (F) (Sheik A Al Sabah) K Mahdi 4-9-0 L Dettori 109
4 (4) 0053-20 QUEEN'S PAGEANT 51 (S) (Mrs R Heathcote) J Spearing 4-9-0 S Drowne 108
5 (3) 1040-43 THERHEA 6 (D,G,S) (R Gudge, C Lewis & M Calvert) B Millman 5-8-10 A Whelan 112
6 (10) 640540- STAR MANAGER 169J (CD,G,S) (M Arbib) P Cole 8-8-10 T Quinn 114
7 (1) 000-450 MR MAJICA 6 (F) (C Metcalfe) B Meehan 4-8-8 K Fallon 109
8 (6) 0/0414- OUT OF SIGHT 335 (D,G) (D Allen) B McMahon 4-8-7 R Cochrane 100
9 (8) 32040-0 SONG OF SKYE 22 (F) (E Fenaroli) T Naughton 4-8-7 D Holland 94
10 (5) 230-000 SECRET BALLOT 9 (S) (W al-Mutawa) K Mahdi 4-8-7 M Baird (3) 97
Long handicap Secret Ballot 8-5.
BETTING: 3-1 Gulf Shaadi, 7-2 Therhea, 6-1 Groom's Gordon, 7-1 Star Manager, 8-1 Out Of Sight, 10-1 others.
1997: STAR TALENT 6-8-12 R Cochrane (10-1) I Balding 14 ran

FORM FOCUS Groom's Gordon 6¾l 4th to Strazo in stakes at Nottingham (1m 54yd, good). Gulf Shaadi ¾l 2nd to Tumbleweed Ridge in handicap at Newmarket (7f, soft). Zugudi 25l 10th to American Whisper in handicap at Kempton (1m 2f, soft). Therhea 1¾l 3rd to Yabint El Sultan in handicap at Newbury (1m, heavy). Star Manager 10l 12th to Conspicuous in handicap at Newbury (1m 2f 6yd, good). Out Of Sight 4¾l 4th to Alezal in handicap at Haydock (1m 30yd, good to soft).

OUT OF SIGHT is from a stable enjoying a purple patch and has sound claims

3.10 CHRYSALIS GROUP 30TH ANNIVERSARY MILE [SHOWCASE] (Group II: £37,160: 1m 14yd) (9 runners) C4

1 (2) 332111- CRIMSON TIDE 166 (D,F,G,S) (C Wright) J Hills 4-9-4 M Hills 128
2 (3) 210121- CRYSTAL HEARTED 215 (F,G,S) (Mrs C Poland) H Candy 4-9-4 A McGlone 122
3 (1) 603522- GOTHENBERG 166 (D,F,G,S) (B Yeardley Ltd) M Johnston 5-9-4 D Holland 118
4 (6) 32100-2 ALMUSHTARAK 9 (D,F,G) (H Al-Maktoum) K Mahdi 5-9-0 R Cochrane 125
5 (7) 011336- HANDSOME RIDGE 202 (S) (Platt Promotions Ltd) J Gosden 4-9-0 L Dettori 119
6 (5) 2120- ILLUSION 247 (BF,D,S) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 4-9-0 J Reid 96+
7 (9) 06063-1 MUCHEA 19 (F,G,S) (Albion Investments) M Channon 4-9-0 R Hughes 117
8 (8) 113325- POLAR PRINCE 231 (BF,F,G) (Mrs C Stevenson) M Jarvis 5-9-0 P Robinson 132
9 (4) 1040-0 FIAMETTA 6 (S) (B Voak) C Brittain 4-8-11 W R Swinburn 118
BETTING: 7-2 Crimson Tide, 4-1 Gothenberg, 5-1 Crystal Hearted, 6-1 Muchea, 13-2 Almushtarak, 8-1 others.
1997: WIXIM 4-9-0 Pat Eddery (5-1) R Charlton 8 ran

FORM FOCUS Crimson Tide beat Gothenberg (1lb better off) ½l in 7-runner group 2 stakes at Capannelle (1m, heavy). Crystal Hearted beat Baleno ¾l in 9-runner group 2 stakes at Frankfurt (1m 2f, good). Almushtarak neck 2nd of 7 to Apprehension in group 3 stakes at Newmarket (1m 1f, soft). Illusion 20l 11th of 16 to Amyas in handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good). Muchea beat Chateau Royal ½l in 8-runner group 3 stakes at Curragh (7f, heavy). Almushtarak (2lb better off) 5¼l 9th. Polar Prince 4¾l 5th of 8 to Intikhab in stakes (listed) at Epsom (1m 114yd, good).

Prolific CRIMSON TIDE will make a bold bid to extend the sequence

3.40 HEATHORNS BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP (£5,016: 2m 78yd) (8 runners) C4

1 (7) 40/00-1 IVOR'S FLUTTER 13 (C,D,G,S) (W Perry) D Elsworth 9-9-13 N Pollard (7) 97
2 (6) 010031- WHITECHAPEL 182 (D,G,S) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 10-9-11 L Dettori 95
3 (8) 01524-6 INVERMARK 9 (F) (Sir David Wills) J Fanshawe 4-9-11 W R Swinburn 112
4 (3) 3215-34 DOVEDON STAR 20 (BF,S) (Osvaldo Pedroni) A Kelleway 4-9-6 K Fallon 110
5 (4) /1030-0 BOWCLIFFE COURT 28 (D,F,S) (A Spence) J Akehurst 6-9-3 T Quinn 103
6 (2) 11432-0 SUDEST 13 (F) (R Hitchins) I Balding 4-9-1 S Whitworth 97
7 (1) 202-300 GALAPINO 29 (BF,F) (Glendale Prnrs Ltd) Mrs G Kelleway 5-9-1 R Cochrane 89
8 (5) 31050-4 SEA FREEDOM 13 (V,F,S) (Miss B Swire) G Balding 7-8-9 S Drowne 85
BETTING: 3-1 Ivor's Flutter, 4-1 Whitechapel, 5-1 Invermark, 6-1 Sudest, 7-1 Dovedon Star, 8-1 others
1997: ETTERBY PARK 4-9-6 J Weaver (9-2) M Johnston 8 ran

FORM FOCUS Ivor's Flutter beat Fabillion 4l in 13-runner handicap at Kempton (2m, soft) with Sea Freedom (6lb better off) 15l 4th and Sudest (6lb better off) beaten a distance 9th. Whitechapel beat Jaseur neck in 11-runner handicap at Newbury (2m, good) with Galapino (levels) 32l 10th. Invermark 21l 6th of 21 to Raise A Prince in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, soft). Dovedon Star 20l 4th of 7 to Rossel in handicap at Hamilton (1m 5f 9yd, heavy).

WHITECHAPEL has obvious claims with Dettori aboard

4.10 LINCOLN CIGARS MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,241: 1m 2f) (6 runners)

1 (5) 643- AKARITA 191 (Barouche Stud Ltd) B McMahon 8-11 R Cochrane 89
2 (3) 6- LA ROCHELLE 190 (S Manana) C Brittain 8-11 D Harrison 82
3 (2) 4- MANNEQUIN 254 (M Al Naboodah) B Hills 8-11 M Hills 89
4 (1) 02- MONDSCHEIN 188 (B Andersson) J Dunlop 8-11 Pat Eddery 95
5 (6) CHARROUX (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-7 J Reid –
6 (4) POPPY TOO (T Cunningham) M Channon 8-7 T Quinn –
BETTING: 9-4 Charroux, 3-1 Mondschein, 7-2 Mannequin, 5-1 Poppy Too, 8-1 La Rochelle, 12-1 Akarita.
1997: UKRAINE VENTURE 8-7 W Ryan (13-2) S Woods 11 ran

FORM FOCUS Akarita 2¾l 3rd of 13 to Dark Moondancer in 2yo maiden stakes at Haydock (7f 30yd, heavy). La Rochelle 12l 6th of 22 to Border Arrow in 2yo maiden stakes at Newmarket (1m, good to soft). Mannequin 4l 4th of 12 to Due South in 2yo maiden stakes at Beverley (7f 100yd, good). Mondschein neck 2nd of 12 to Final Tango in 2yo maiden fillies at Redcar (7f, good)

Plenty will take a chance on MONDSCHEIN after her narrow Redcar defeat

4.40 BOW STREET MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,518: 5f) (6 runners)

1 (4) DORISSIO (Miss A Hill) I Balding 8-11 S Whitworth –
2 (1) DOUBLE CHOICE (S L Partnership) R Hannon 8-11 Dane O'Neill –
3 (3) KINGFISHERS BONNET (P Wightman) S Knight 8-11 D R McCabe –
4 (5) PALACE GREEN (M St Quinton) M Channon 8-11 T Quinn –
5 (2) SNAP CRACKER (J Miller) M Quinn 8-11 A Whelan –
6 (6) 03 TRUE LOVE WAYS 20 (Maccalls Stud) W G M Turner 8-11 D Sweeney (3) 28
BETTING: 2-1 Dorissio, 11-4 Double Choice, 4-1 True Love Ways, 9-2 Palace Green, 8-1 others.
1997: DAUNTING LADY 8-11 Pat Eddery (100-30 fav) R Hannon 15 ran

FORM FOCUS Dorissio Elisio filly out of 7f winner Floralia. Double Choice Doubletour filly out of a moderate racemare. Palace Green Rudimentary filly, half-sister to the useful sprinter Musica. True Love Ways 2¾l 3rd to Inya Lake in novice stakes at Hamilton (5f 4yd, heavy).

DORISSIO looks the type to improve his sire Elisio's fine record on the soft

5.15 SILVER CLEF HANDICAP (£5,836: 5f) (14 runners)

1 (13) 10300-5 PATSY GRIMES 27 (D,F,G,S) (J Grimes) J S Moore 8-10-0 P P Murphy (3) 100
2 (14) 0402-30 THE GAY FOX 16 (BF,D,F,G) (G Whitaker) B McMahon 4-9-11 T Quinn 103
3 (9) 51060-2 LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 29 (CD,F,G,S) (Elite RC) M Heaton-Ellis 10-9-7 M Roberts 104
4 (8) 004420- SIR JOEY 160 (BF,D,F,G,S) (Mrs A Sims) P Murphy 9-9-6 D Harrison 108
5 (1) 3000-02 JOHNNY STACCATO 11 (CD,G,S) (R O S Racing) R O'Sullivan 4-9-2 R Cochrane 106
6 (3) /800-01 STUFFED 8 (D,F,S) (Early Morning Breakfast Synd) M W Easterby 6-9-2 R Hughes 101
7 (10) 33002-6 MISTER JOLSON 11 (CD,F,G,S) (B Froome) R Hodges 9-8-13 S Drowne 105
8 (4) 66140-0 BUTRINTO 28 (F) (M Whatley) J Pearce 4-8-11 K Fallon 113
9 (7) 21300-0 SALLY GREEN 24 (CD,S) (K Stenborg) C Wall 4-8-11 J Reid 97
10 (5) 0040-03 JUST BOB 11 (D,F,G,S) (J Fotherby) S Kettlewell 9-8-10 P Fredericks (7) 108
11 (2) 12-0502 NOBALINO 15 (V,D) (M Kirby) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-8 P McCabe (3) 103
12 (6) 4603-41 DANDE FLYER 4 (D,F,G) (Dandelion Dist Ltd) D Arbuthnot 5-8-0 (6ex) C Rutter 101
13 (12) 54000-6 BARRANAK 23 (D,F,G) (M MacCarthy) G McCourt 6-7-10 Darren Moffatt (3) 109
14 (11) 0060-00 STRAT'S QUEST 11 (S) (J Blumenow) D Arbuthnot 4-7-10 R Mullen (5) 103
Long handicap: Barranak 7-9. Strat's Quest 7-7.
BETTING: 9-2 Johnny Staccato, 6-1 Lord High Admiral, Dande Flyer, 8-1 Just Bob, Stuffed, 10-1 others.
1997: GONE SAVAGE 9-9-0 R Cochrane (6-1) W Musson 17 ran

FORM FOCUS Patsy Grimes 5¾l 5th of 9 to Monaassib in stakes (listed) at Doncaster (6f, good to soft). Lord High Admiral ¾l 2nd of 18 to Proud Native in handicap at Doncaster (5f, good to soft) with The Gay Fox (4lb better off) 2¾l 3rd. Johnny Staccato 2l 2nd of 24 to Marsad in handicap at Kempton (6f, soft) with Mister Jolson (levels) 15l 6th and Strat's Quest (3lb worse off) 15l 7th. Nobalino 2½l 2nd to Juwwi in handicap at Lingfield (5f, AW). Dande Flyer beat Divine Miss-P 2¾l in handicap at Brighton (5l, good).

JOHNNY STACCATO is one to note on his return to the minimum trip

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TENNIS: SANTORO TOPPLES TROUBLED AMERICAN TO LEAVE ROOM FOR CHANGE AT HEAD OF RANKINGS

Defeat for Sampras proves spur to Korda

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MONTE CARLO

WHO would dispute that tennis is the greatest mind game of them all? Certainly not Petr Korda, who wobbled on the brink of defeat before he was handed a gilt-edged incentive to master Albert Costa here yesterday.

Korda simply had to reach the final of the Monte Carlo Open to entertain thoughts of heading the world rankings list on Monday. He opened brightly against Costa, winning the first five games before the Spaniard rallied to lead 7-5, 3-1. At that point, details of Pete Sampras's heavy defeat by Fabrice Santoro filtered down to No 2 Court, prompting Korda to gather his thoughts and pull himself through.



Santoro: superior

Only defeat for Sampras would have allowed Korda in through the back door. The former scenario was far from remote, given Sampras's unease on clay, but the way he succumbed to Santoro, who breezed to a 6-1, 6-1 victory, was startling in the extreme. A semi-finalist here last year, Santoro can now boast the only superior record against Sampras. He leads the former master by the odd match in five.

This reverse amounted to a new low for Sampras in a season punctuated by poor results. His near-perennial failures on clay may be down to the misconception that attack is the best form of defence. Sampras established no rhythm in his traditional strengths, his service and forehand both faltering with rare frequency. Yet his response was to become more aggressive, striking the ball harder in an effort to drive away the demons. He looked more like a dizzy debutant than the winner of ten grand-slam titles.

The American admitted as much. "I dug myself a big hole today," he said. "I can't afford to start pressing when I am not playing well, which is what I tend to do on clay. It was a bad day. Hopefully it won't happen again, with the French Open coming up. This match will sit with me for a bit. I am sitting here wondering what happened."

Santoro, by contrast, boasts an excellent clay-court repartee. He moves well, has good touch and a strong overhead, and takes the ball early on his two-handed backhand. This allowed him to exploit angles that Sampras's flatter hitting could not counter. One of two unseeded players in the last eight, Santoro, 25, has finally shaken off the debilitating effects of a virus he caught in January. He now plays his French compatriot, Cedric Pioline, a finalist here five years ago, who dismissed the out-of-form Gustavo Kuerten 7-6, 6-1.

Korda's reward for his 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 defeat of Costa is a quarter-final against Richard Krajicek, who enjoyed an easier passage in mastering the unseeded Bohdan Ulihrach 6-4, 6-0. Korda occasionally displayed his trademark brilliance from the baseline, although he will have to reduce his count of unforced errors to reach the final, and with it that much-treasured place atop the mountain. He would be only the fifteenth individual No 1 in 25 years of the world rankings.

Korda, Krajicek and Pioline, whose best results have been gained away from clay, were joined in the last eight by Boris Becker, who shares a similar propensity. He overwhelmed Mark Philippoussis for the loss of one game in each set to emphasise the opportunity spurned by Greg Rusedski against him on Tuesday. The presence of so many fast-court specialists among the last eight confirmed that constant sunshine, allied to the lively pace of the courts, has favoured the big hitters.

Becker's triumph sees him square up to Alberto Berasategui, the form horse on clay to date after winning in Estoril and reaching the final in Barcelona last week. It will be intriguing to see how Becker counters the renowned baseline qualities of Berasategui, seeded No 12. He is one of three Spaniards to survive the third round. The other two, Alex Corretja and Carlos Moyà, confront each other today for a place in the semi-finals.

LIONEL CRONNEAU



Sampras shows the strain as he contemplates an emphatic straight-sets defeat against Santoro yesterday

HOCKEY

Cullen anxious to return after missing victory

BY CATHY HARRIS

TINA CULLEN, the striker, is expected to be fit enough to play in England's last two matches in the four nations tournament in Springfields, Massachusetts. Cullen missed the 6-0 victory over India on Wednesday with a suspected fractured cheekbone.

She was forced to watch from the stands after being hit by the ball in a training session. "We endured an anxious two hours while she was examined," Maggie Souyave, the England coach, said.

"If it had been broken she would have been out of next month's World Cup finals. But it isn't and, although she has a fantastic black eye, she should be OK."

England took advantage of the fact that India were still suffering from jet lag and dominated the match, scoring at regular intervals.

Jennie Bimson gave them the perfect start in the first minute and Mandy Nicholls and Jane Smith, both of Slough, scored before half-time to give them a 3-0 lead at the interval. Jane Sixsmith added the fourth before Nicholls and Smith completed the scoring.

"It was a clinical display and gives us the psychological advantage when we meet them in our first game in the World Cup," Souyave said.

"I was pleased with the number of chances we created but our conversion rate at 16 penalty corners was poor. We need to do a lot of work in that department."

Cullen, the Hightown captain, and Carolyn Reid, the goalkeeper, will both miss the semi-final of the English Hockey Association Cup against Clifton on Sunday.

Beaten by the Merseysiders in the final last season, Clifton are desperate to succeed and keep alive their hopes of qualifying for the European Cup Winners' Cup.

In the other game, Slough will be without several of their Premiership-winning squad, but should have enough strength in depth to see off the challenge of Loughborough Students, who play in the first division.

Lions trio aiming to salvage pride

BOB CRUTCHLEY, Chris Mayer and Kalbir Takher, who failed to earn selection for the World Cup in Holland next month, are in an England B team — who will play as the Lions — in the Home Nations tournament that starts at Milton Keynes today (Sydney Friskin writes).

Lions will surely provide England with stronger opposition than that encountered last week at Southgate, where Wales and Scotland were underprepared and France somewhat out of their depth. France have now dropped out, but Wales and Scotland are holding on and hoping for better things.

Additional strength to the England B team is offered by the inclusion of Hall, a sharpshooter, and Fordham, a shrewd midfield campaigner, both of whom asked not to be considered for World Cup selection because of their studies.

All three goalkeepers, Mason, Luckes and Lewis, will be in action at Milton Keynes and Barry Dancer, the coach, will have to decide whether Luckes or Lewis will accompany Mason to the World Cup. Lewis and Luckes were on trial last week at Southgate where each played a full match and shared the duties in the concluding game against France. At the end of it all, Dancer was none the wiser.

ENGLAND B: Manpreet Kochar (Reading), H Hoskin (Reading), G Fordham (Hounslow), S Head (East Grinstead), C Parnham (Cannock), D Hall (Guildford), Kalbir Takher (Cannock), S Humphries (Canterbury), M Johnson (Cannock), J Bell (Brooklands), C Mayer (Cannock), B Barnes (East Grinstead), R Todd (Reading), P Surridge (Canterbury), R Crutchley (Cannock).

SATURDAY. ANYTHING BUT A DAY OF REST.

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THE TIMES

SQUASH: DEDICATED YOUNG SQUAD BRINGS SUCCESS FOR VILLAGE TEAM

Russell clinches Duffield's first title

JOHN RUSSELL, the British Junior champion from Kent, is being celebrated in the Derbyshire village of Duffield after helping its team to victories in the semi-finals and final of the SRA National Squash League. The 19-year-old, who in January narrowly lost the British Open Junior final to Ong Beng Hee, of Malaysia, is part of a young squad brought together at the start of the season by Duffield.

On Wednesday night he fought back from 7-0 down in the fifth game against Chris Tomlinson, of Broxbourne, to win 6-9, 9-5, 9-7, 7-9, 9-7 and clinch the title for Duffield for the first time. The other winners for the victorious home squad were Mark Allen, a former England junior captain, and Natalie Grainger, the best young player from South Africa in recent years and the daughter of Jean Wilson, the former Great Britain player.

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

Brian Hargrave, the Duffield team manager, said: "We are a small club just outside Derby but we have built up a strong club of young players whose dedication and strength in depth has carried us into the last two NSL finals and now to our first title."

England's men, led by Simon Park, the British champion, began their defence of the European team squash championship in Helsinki yesterday with a 4-0 victory over Sweden in the opening round of Pool A matches, while the women beat France 3-0 in Pool A in their pursuit of a 21st successive title.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

Pir Trust - 282239
Ref: EAT/62304/CD(T)
The Charity Commission have made a Scheme to amend the trusts of this Charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Purley Library, Banstead Road Purley or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Charity Commission Woodfield House Tangier Somerset TA1 4BL quoting the above reference.

H.M. Land Registry
8 Redmile Close, Coalville, Leicestershire.
Application to register the freehold title to the above property has been made by William Henry Fisher. The Title Deeds are stated to have been lost. Anyone possessing the missing Deeds or objecting to the registration should notify The Leicester District Land Registry of Westbridge Place, Leicester LE3 5DS. Such objections to be received not later than 14 days from the appearance of this advertisement, quoting reference LT300404.

Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions

British Waterways Board
Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation
Notice of a Proposed Order under the Transport Act 1968 s.105(3)

The Secretary of State hereby gives notice that he proposes to make an Order under section 105(3) of the Transport Act 1968 relating to the Sheffield and South Yorkshire Navigation, which is a commercial waterway.

The proposed Order will impose on the British Waterways Board a new duty of maintenance in substitution for the duty imposed on the Board by section 105(1) and (2) of the Act.

The new duty will replace the present test based on length, width, height of superstructure and draught of vessels using the waterway with one based on minimum channel widths and depths throughout the Navigation, including passing places, except in locks or at points where there are existing bridges or other permanent structures constricting the width.

Further details of the Board's proposals can be obtained from Mr. Paul Wagstaffe, Customer Relations Manager, British Waterways, Willow Grange, Church Road, Watford WD1 3QA.

Objection to the proposed Order may be made in writing, stating the grounds of objection, to the Secretary of State, Floor 6/H15, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6DE and received by him no later than 29th May 1998.

Dated this 21st day of April 1998

B GLICKSMAN
An Assistant Secretary in the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions

LEGAL NOTICES

INVESCO BLUE CHIP TRUST PLC (IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
COMPANY NUMBER: 2454811
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: On 9 April 1998, the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Phillip Rodney Sykes and Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen, P O Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT were appointed joint Liquidators by the Members.
The joint Liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to Martin Fishman, Arthur Andersen, P O Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London WC2R 2NT by 9 June 1998.
The Joint Liquidators also give notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 9 July 1998 they intend to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 9 June 1998 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved.
The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full.
Dated 15 April 1998
M FISHMAN, Joint Liquidator

M J MAUNSELL (PLANT HIRE) LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Bentinck Terrace, Chd Floor) London, W2 4LF on 5th May 1998 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.
It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Bentinck Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 4LF, between the hours of 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 17th April 1998
H J Burden, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986 RELGRAVIA COOLING SERVICES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 11th May 1998 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Maurice Eryncod Dorrington, FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
Dated this 20th day of April 1998
By Order of the Board
J KELLY, Director

VICTORY RAILWAY HOLDINGS LIMITED
Company Number 3147927
Pursuant to section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 Victory Railway Holdings Limited hereby gives notice that:-
The Company approved by special resolution of the Company passed on 21 April 1998 pursuant to section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 a repayment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring 69,480 of its own ordinary shares of £1 each by purchase.
The amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £6,161,649.
The statutory declaration of the directors and the auditor's report required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at Ventura House, 37 Kingsave Street, Reading, Berkshire RG1 1YZ.
Any creditor of the Company may at any time prior to 27 May 1998 apply to the court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an order prohibiting the payment out of capital.
Dickinson Dees
Solicitors to the above Company

The Insolvency Act 1986 ASSOCIATED RESPONSE LIMITED (In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Eryncod Dorrington FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 14th April 1998.
M.E. DORRINGTON, Liquidator

No. 001329 of 1998
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF USHERS OF TROWBRIDGE GROUP plc and IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 1 April 1998 confirming the cancellation of the share premium account of the above-named company amounting to £27,819,000 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 15 April 1998.
Dated the 17 day of April 1998.
LINKLATERS & PAINES (DTL)
One Silk Street
London EC2Y 8HQ
Solicitors for the above-named Company

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified, after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

ALEC John Rogers of 18 Newlands Close, Northolt, Middx who died on 13th January 1998; particulars to Keith Hall Fowler & Co, 422 Greenford Road, Greenford, Middx UB6 9AG. On or before the 25th June 1998.

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RUGBY UNION: RETURNING INTERNATIONALS MAY HOLD KEY TO FADING TITLE CHALLENGE

Strain begins to tell on Newcastle

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

NEWCASTLE returned to the North East yesterday morning still convinced that the Allied Dunbar Premiership is within their reach. The truth is, though, that their grip is slipping. After another enthralling first-division encounter at Loftus Road, Wasps dealt Newcastle's hopes a body blow with an 18-17 victory.

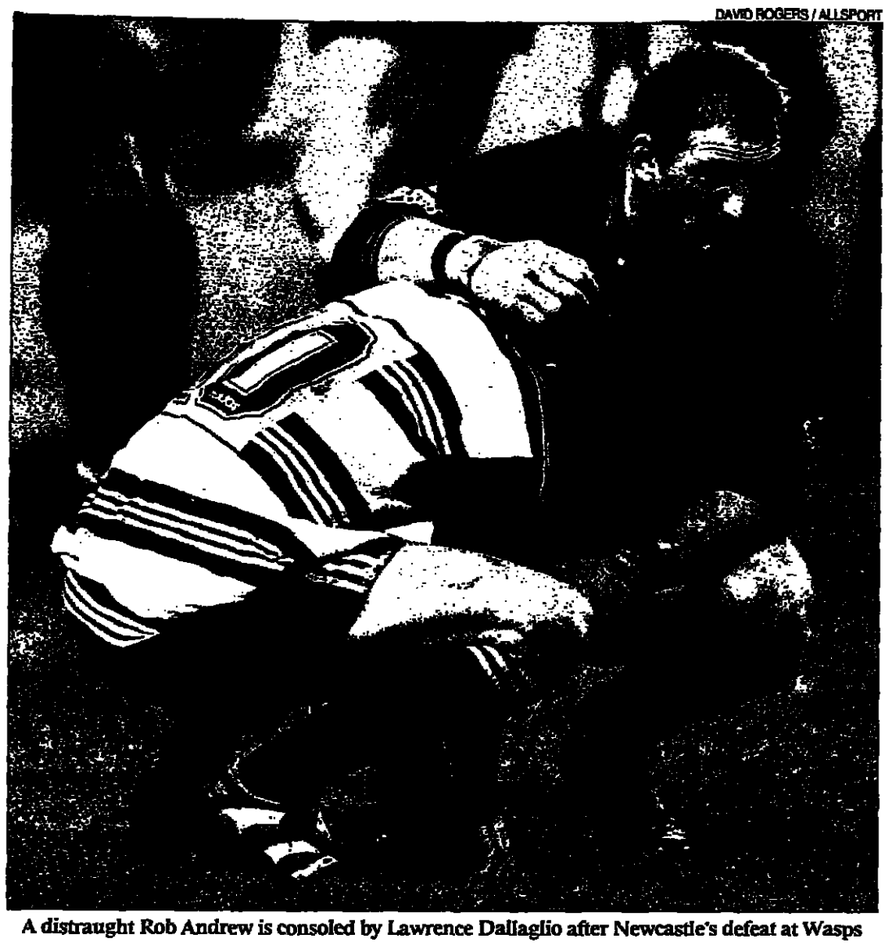
Newcastle will be helped by the knowledge that they can bring back three experienced internationals for the remaining four matches. They held back Va'aiga Tuigamala against Wasps in the hope that, by giving his calf injury further rest, he would be able to complete the season. They also hope that the same applies to Tony Underwood and Alan Tait.

However, it is likely that a much-changed side will play Bristol on Sunday, since neither Pat Lam nor Dean Ryan were in the best of health after the game on Wednesday. Lam, shaken by a tackle from Trevor Leota and still trying to recover from a virus that has affected him for a week, did not emerge for the second half and Ryan, the captain, sustained a leg injury that affected his mobility.

This is the syndrome that hit Leicester last season — matches piling up alongside injuries: "I'm a firm believer that physiological 'injuries' from a game like that are more destabilising than physical injuries," Steve Bates, the Newcastle coach, said. "No game in this division is proving easy. Every team we play against picks up their game and, as a rule, goes at us.

"I don't think you can ask players in this quality of rugby to play twice a week and expect them to perform at the top of their game. The skills may not be what you see in the southern hemisphere, but the physical side is as tough as anything you will see there."

DAVID ROGERS / ALLSPORT



A distraught Rob Andrew is consoled by Lawrence Dallaglio after Newcastle's defeat at Wasps

The primary beneficiaries of Wasps' success — the third defeat Newcastle have suffered in the capital this season — are their North London rivals, Saracens, but they too will take nothing for granted. They have a tough assignment at Leicester tomorrow and they will be without Francois Pienaar, though his hamstring injury is not so bad as first feared and it is possible he will be ready to take on London Irish on May 3. Saracens have withdrawn Tony Roques from the England colts international against France on Sunday since he will be required, at the very least, as a replacement.

Leicester could yet exert a considerable influence on the Premiership — nine days after the game against Saracens, they travel to Gateshead to play Newcastle.

In between those two matches they play Wasps, whose delight at beating Newcastle was tempered by injuries to their centres, Nick Greenstock and Rob Henderson. Both are doubtful for the game with Northampton on Sunday, though an X-ray yesterday showed no lasting damage to Greenstock's shoulder and Henderson has a dead leg rather than a recurrence of his groin injury.

Meanwhile, the game's politics are poised for an airing in the law courts: Cliff Brittle, the Rugby Football Union (RFU) board chairman, Fran Cotton and Clive Woodward are due to defend an injunction in the High Court on Monday. They are required to return documents sent by mistake from English First-Division Rugby to Woodward, the England coach, which reveal details of a clubs' submission to the European Commission. The RFU has instructed its solicitors not to represent Brittle, Cotton and Woodward, which suggests that another split in its own ranks must be imminent.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	18	15	0	3	511	324	30
Saracens	18	15	0	3	474	319	30
Bath	17	11	0	6	475	370	22
Leicester	17	10	1	6	447	354	21
Gloucester	19	9	1	9	435	454	19
Richmond	19	9	0	10	483	420	18
Sale	18	8	2	8	499	449	18
Northampton	17	8	1	8	401	339	17
Harlequins	18	7	0	11	430	482	14
Wasps	18	6	1	11	396	499	13
London Irish	18	5	0	13	355	555	10
Bristol	19	2	0	17	289	630	4

REMAINING FIXTURES: NEWCASTLE: Sunday: v Bristol (h) May 4: v Leicester (h) May 10: v Bath (h) May 17: v Harlequins (a).

SARACENS: Tomorrow: Leicester (a) April 29: v Harlequins (a) May 3: v London Irish (h) May 14: Northampton (a)

SAILING

Familiar tale of woe as hopes fade for Silk Cut

Edward Gorman on how Lawrie Smith was upstaged by one of his former crewmen

Lawrie Smith, of Great Britain, the skipper of *Silk Cut*, went into the seventh leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race looking for his second stage win in a row, with hopes of salvaging a top-three overall finish despite poor early results.

But instead of leading the fleet into Baltimore on Wednesday evening, Smith found himself back in the familiar territory of fifth place, insufficient to pull *Silk Cut* out of sixth position in the overall standings with two legs remaining.

Smith has become increasingly preoccupied with what he believes to be unfair criticism of his campaign, but his case that *Silk Cut*, her crew and the syndicate management is as good as the best in the fleet is at variance with the evidence. A third-place overall finish is possible but unlikely; second even more remote.

Paul Cayard and *EF Language* seem certain to lift the trophy and only an extraordinary series of events is likely to give second-placed Gunnar Krantz, on *Swedish Match*, the title.

After finishing three minutes behind Knut Frostad's *Innovation Kvaerner* and 63 minutes behind *BrunelSunergy*, the leg winner, Smith said the loss of the Satcom B unit on *Silk Cut* early on in the leg had put him at a disadvantage because Vincent Geake, the navigator, was lacking vital weather information.

Smith also seemed to suggest that he may have taken a couple of poor tactical options, an issue at the heart of the disappointing performance of *Silk Cut* throughout. "We never really got ahead of *Kvaerner*," he said. "There always seemed to be more wind on their side of the course. In some ways, it's like it has been on other legs of this race — *it's not how fast you sailed, but* which way you went."

Frostad, who crewed for Smith in the last race on *Intrum Justitia*, could barely conceal his delight. "For the last 18 hours we were with *Silk Cut*," he said. "It was the best moment of the Whitbread for me, racing alongside Lawrie, my old skipper, and beating him on pure boat speed."

The Dutch on *BrunelSunergy*, who won the leg in a tight finale, rejected suggestions that they had taken a flyer by sailing well to the east of the Gulf Stream early on. Roy Heiner, the skipper, said: "*The fleet took a flyer from us.*"

Stuart Quarrie, the navigator, from Great Britain, was surprised that other crews did not follow suit. "We felt that, by going east, we would be compensated for the loss of the Gulf Stream," Quarrie said.

The leg produced some close tussles. After 870 miles of racing, *Swedish Match* beat *EF Language* to take second place by 30 seconds. *Kvaerner* took fourth from *Silk Cut* by three minutes and Dennis Conner, at the wheel of *Toshiba*, scraped in ahead of George Collins's *Chessie Racing* to take seventh by ten seconds — the closest finish in Whitbread history.

Conner, who took over from Paul Standbridge, of Great Britain, for the leg, has done little to improve the cause of *Toshiba*. When he last skippered the boat between Sydney and Auckland, he irritated many by launching the first protest of the race against Cayard, which was thrown out by the jury. Now he is involved in only the second protest after a port and starboard incident with the all-female crew on *EF Education*.

Christine Guillou, the skipper of *EF Education*, described how *Toshiba* allegedly came dangerously close to collision as the two boats were going downwind in 30 knots of breeze. "We were on starboard tack and *Toshiba* was on port tack," she said. "They didn't give way or avoid us. It was very stupid, especially given the wind conditions," she added.

Overall positions, page 49



Christie: inspired loyalty

Christie remembered for peerless record

By David Hands

KITCH CHRISTIE, who coached the South Africa side that won the 1995 World Cup, has died in hospital in Pretoria. Christie, who had suffered for many years from leukaemia, was 58.

He was virtually unknown outside South Africa when, as coach to the successful Transvaal team, he was invited to replace Ian McIntosh in 1994. In his 13 months in charge South Africa played 14 internationals and won them all, leaving him as the only coach in his country's history with an unbeaten record, including the extra-time World Cup final against New Zealand in Johannesburg.

Christie, who was educated at Leith Academy and spent the early part of his business life in London, inspired fierce loyalty among his players: "He had belief in players, he could always get them to perform for him," Joel Stransky, whose dropped goal won the World Cup and who now plays for Leicester, said yesterday.

"He was honest and the players responded to that. He could recognise the strengths and weaknesses of players." Christie formed part of an enlightened management team, alongside Morne du Plessis (manager), Edward Griffiths (chief executive of the South African Rugby Football Union) and Francois Pienaar (captain), which carried South Africa to great heights and made the subsequent fall from grace all the sadder.

Christie, suffering from illness, was dismissed only eight months after the final and the positive image that had been built for South African rugby came tumbling down. "I believe the last two seasons have been a disgraceful waste of a golden opportunity," Christie admitted last year.



Sheehan on Bridge

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

Begin Bridge with The Times: Lesson 2 – Displaying the hands

Last week I told you to get a pack of cards and select this hand from it:

♠ A Q 4 2 ♡ A J 3 ♢ 10 3 2 ♣ Q 9 5

It is easiest if you start with a pack already arranged into suits. You should have picked out the ace, queen, four and two of spades, the ace, jack and three of hearts, the ten, three and two of diamonds and the queen, nine and five of clubs.

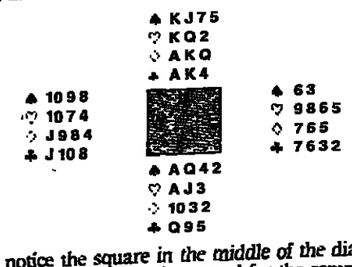
Now pick up the hand and practise holding it so nobody else can see it. It is best to sort it into suits, with the highest card in the suit on your left. Although bridge hands are always written down in the sequence spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs (♠, ♡, ♢, ♣), it is convenient to arrange them in your hand by alternating red and black suits. That way you are less likely to suffer the ignominy of confusing the two of hearts with the two of diamonds (though that happens to players at all levels, I can assure you). Hold the cards in a fan, so that you just see the symbols at the top left-hand corner of the individual cards. It should look like this.



When I write individual hands in the text I do it in two ways, either across the page as above, or sometimes down the page like this :

♠ A Q 4 2
♡ A J 3
♢ 10 3 2
♣ Q 9 5

The four players' hands make up the *deal*. When I show a full deal, this is how it looks on paper:



You will notice the square in the middle of the diagram has the letters NESW marked; they stand for the compass points the letters NESW marked; they stand for the compass points North, East, South and West, and are useful for talking about the deal. North and South are partners, playing against East and West. Lay the deal out with your pack of cards.

□ If you would like to jump ahead, you can get the first five lessons by sending five 26p stamps to me at *The Times*, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. Mark the envelope 'Bridge Lessons'.



Keene on Chess

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Monaco Round Up

Today I conclude my coverage of the quick play/blindfold tournament in Monaco with two games by the co-British champion grandmaster Matthew Sadler. In the two games that follow he defeats the Dutch grandmasters van Wely and Piket.

White: Matthew Sadler
Black: Loek van Wely

Monte Carlo
Rapidplay, 1998

Queen's Gambit Declined

1	d4	Nf6
2	Nf3	e6
3	c4	d5
4	Bg5	h6
5	Bxf6	Qxf6
6	Nc3	c6
7	e3	Nd7
8	Bd3	g6
9	0-0	Bg7
10	e4	dxc4
11	e5	Qe7
12	Bxc4	0-0
13	Re1	Rd8
14	Rc1	b6
15	Qe2	Bb7
16	Ba6	Rab8
17	Bxb7	Rxb7
18	a3	c5
19	Qe4	Rbb8
20	Nb5	cxd4
21	Nbxd4	Qe8
22	b4	Rbc8
23	Nc6	Nc5
24	Nxd8	Nxe4
25	Rxc8	Qd7
26	Rb8	Qc7
27	Ra8	Qc2
28	Nxe6+	Kh7
29	Rxe4	fxe6
30	Re1	Qa4
31	Re3	Qd1+
32	Re1	Qb4
33	h4	Qxa3
34	Rd1	Qa4
35	Rc1	Qd7
36	Ra1	Qb5
37	R8xa7	Qxb4
38	Rc7	Black resigns

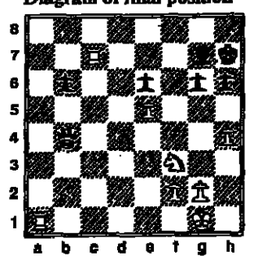
White: Jeroen Piket
Black: Matthew Sadler
Monte Carlo
Rapidplay, 1998

Larsen's Opening

1	Nf3	d5
2	b3	Nc6
3	Bb2	Bg4
4	e3	e6
5	Be2	Nf6
6	0-0	Be7
7	c4	0-0
8	Nc3	Re8
9	h3	Bf8
10	h3	Bh5
11	a3	a5
12	Rc1	Rc8
13	Nb5	Qe7
14	Rc2	Nd7
15	d4	Nb6
16	cxd5	exd5
17	Nd2	Bxe2
18	Qxe2	Nd8
19	a4	Qd7
20	Nf3	c6
21	Nc3	f6
22	Ne2	Nf7
23	Bc3	Rab8
24	Qe1	Qf5
25	Be2	Qd3
26	Bxa5	Rxe5
27	Qxa5	Qxe2
28	Qxb6	Qxa2
29	Qxb7	Qc2
30	a5	Nd6
31	Qb6	Ra8
32	a6	Se7
33	Qc7	Kf7
34	Ra1	Qb3
35	Re5	Nb5
36	Qb8	Rb8
37	Qxb8	Qxa5
38	Qc7	Qc7
39	Qa8	Qb6
40	Qh8	h5
41	Nh4	Qxa6
42	Nf5	Qa1+
43	Kh2	Bd6+
44	f4	Bf8
45	Qh7	Nd6
46	Nxh6+	Ke7
47	Ng8+	Kd8
48	Qg8+	Kd7
49	Qf7	Kd8
50	Qh8	Ke8
51	Qh5+	Kd7
52	Qh7	Ne4
53	Qf5+	Kc7
54	Qe6	Qa3
55	Qf7+	Kb6
56	h4	Bd6
57	Qxg7	Qxb3
58	Nxf6	Qxe3
59	Nxe4	Qxf4+
60	g3	Qxh4+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Word-watching

By Philip Howard

PEPPERONI
a. A hot drink
b. A sausage
c. A baseball pitch

OROBUS
a. A monorail
b. A Roman military formation
c. A herb

SALOTTO
a. Salad dressing
b. An eight-sail yacht
c. A drawing-room

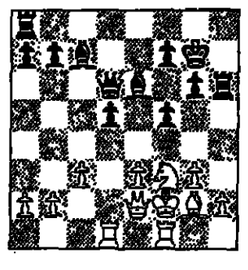
ROMAJI
a. The Gypsy language
b. A red wine
c. Japanese script

Answers on page 50

Winning Move

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Bertram — Herfurth, Leipzig, 1998. How did Black make maximum use of the open h-file?



Solution on page 50

FREE Prize Draw

TAKE YOUR SEAT AT WORLD CUP '98

5 Pairs of Tickets to be WON! with INTERSPORT®

WHATEVER YOU'RE INTO



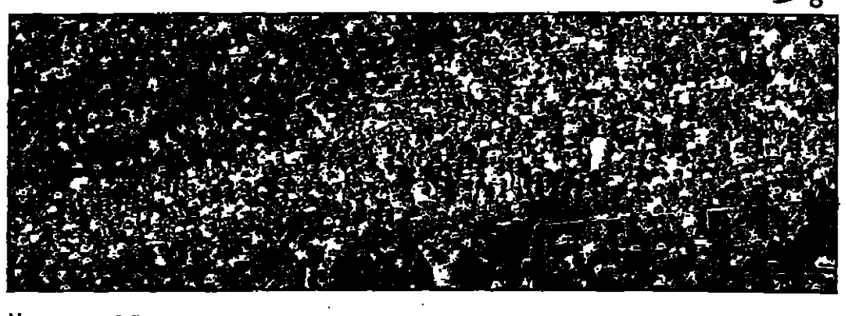
Find one of five reserved seats and you could be a lucky winner to go and watch England or Scotland fight it out in one of their first round matches live!

Study the crowd scene below and place ONE cross on the face of the person, that you believe to be sitting in one of the 5 Intersport reserved seats. (Only one small cross per entry).

- Then complete the entry form below, take it along to any of the 380 Intersport stores throughout the UK, and place it in the special "World Cup '98", Free Draw entry boxes found inside the store.
- To find out where your nearest Intersport store is call 0800 7832016. Or post your entry to Splash Marketing Ltd, 24 Upper High Street, Epsom, Surrey KT17 4QJ.
- All entries must be received by Friday 8 May 1998.
- Five prizes to be won. Each winner will win one pair of tickets to see either England or Scotland fight it out at any of these one first round matches.

10 June Scotland vs Brazil — 15 June England vs Tunisia — 16 June Scotland vs Norway
22 June England vs Romania — 26 June England vs Columbia

TERMS & CONDITIONS
1. Free Draw closes Friday 8th May 1998. 2. The winners will be notified by Monday 18th May 1998 (by post or telephone). 3. Open to UK residents only, aged 16 or over. Employees of Intersport, their families and agents are not eligible to enter. 4. There are five prizes consisting of one pair of tickets to a specific first round match featuring England or Scotland at the World Cup '98 in France. 5. Each prize also includes return travel from Heathrow/Gatwick/Waterloo to France and hotel accommodation (bed and breakfast) for two adults at the destination. 6. Winners will need to be available to travel between 10 - 27 June 1998. 7. Winners aged 16 or 17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when taking their prize. One of the two people in the party must have a full driving licence. 8. Winners will need to hold a valid passport and/or visa. Winners will need to submit their passport numbers prior to departure. 9. Anyone convicted of a previous football related offence will be ineligible to win a prize. 10. The five prizes will be awarded to the first five entries drawn who have marked the picture with a cross on the face of the person that is in one of the five Intersport reserved seats, or the closest to their exact positions, where the judges have decided the reserved seats are hidden. 11. Entries can be posted in the Free Draw Boxes in the Intersport stores. Alternatively mailed to: Splash Marketing Ltd, 24 Upper High Street, Epsom, Surrey KT17 4QJ. 12. If more than one cross is placed on the crowd scene, the entry will be deemed invalid. 13. Ineligible entries and those not completed in accordance with the rules will be disqualified. 14. There is no cash alternative and the decision of the judges is final. No correspondence will be entered into. 15. The winners names will be available after the 18 May 1998 by sending a SAE marked "Winners" to: Splash Marketing Ltd, at the Free Draw address above.
Promoter: Intersport GB Ltd, Tyfling Road, Arden Forest, Industrial Estate, Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 6EP.



Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)
Address
Post Code — Telephone No: Daytime — Parent/Guardian to sign if entrant under 16
Closing date for receipt of entries Friday 8th May 1998.

CRICKET

Compacted Test series for England in Australia

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THE demands on England's leading players are mounting by the year, as starkly revealed by the itinerary for the tour to Australia next winter, which was announced yesterday. The party will leave barely a month after the end of the domestic season and most of the players will be away for almost four months, during which there will be five Test matches and up to 13 one-day internationals.

As this tour will follow nine months of solid cricket, embracing the Caribbean tour and a cluttered summer programme, and precede an intensive period of preparation for the World Cup, the senior players will be full-time England employees in all but name.

ITINERARY

TEST TOUR: Oct 29: Lilac Hill: v ACB Chairman's XI. Oct 31-Nov 3: Perth: v Western Australia. Nov 7-10: Adelaide: v South Australia or Australia XI. Nov 13-16: Cairns: v Queensland. Nov 20-24: Brisbane: First Test. Nov 28-Dec 2: Perth: Second Test. Dec 5-8: Melbourne: v Victoria or Australia XI. Dec 11-15: Adelaide: Third Test. Dec 17: Canberra: v Prime Minister's XI. Dec 19-22: Hobart: v Australia XI. Dec 26-30: Melbourne: Fourth Test. 1999: Jan 2-6: Sydney: Fifth Test.

ONE-DAY SERIES: Jan 10: Brisbane: v Australia. Jan 11: Brisbane: v Sri Lanka. Jan 15: Melbourne: v Australia. Jan 17: Sydney: v Australia. Jan 19: Melbourne: v Sri Lanka. Jan 23: Adelaide: v Sri Lanka. Jan 26: Adelaide: v Australia. Jan 31: Melbourne: v Australia. Feb 2: Sydney: v Sri Lanka. Feb 5: Perth: v Sri Lanka. Feb 10: Sydney: first final. Feb 11: first final reserve day. Feb 12: Melbourne: second final. Feb 13: second final reserve day. Feb 14: Melbourne: third final. Feb 15: third final reserve day.

Their input to their county teams will dwindle, the inevitable outcome of cricket's altered outlook, and while the county committees may continue to defy the trend towards central contracts and pretend that the game can carry on as before, the truth is harshly different.

This summer, the counties will receive a growing number of official requests to rest their England players; next year, they can also expect to be asked, by the England Management Committee, to do without them until the World Cup in England is over in late June. This will cause an outcry, but the counties would be exposed in their selfish insularity if they refused.

The Australia tour is distinctly different to its modern predecessors for having the Ashes series totally separated from the now traditional triangular one-day tournament. The five Tests will be crammed into 46 days, starting in Brisbane on November 20 and concluding with the usual match at Sydney at the new year.

This part of the programme was readily agreed by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), primarily because it allows the selection of two independent squads, naturally with considerable crossover. While 16 players will undertake the main tour up to 18 will be named for the one-day section, which will serve to some extent as a trial for the World Cup. Not everything, however, is to the liking of the ECB and Simon Pack, its international teams director. Lengthy negotiations, dating back to January, yielded limited concessions to English preference.

On the merit side, England will play three four-day games — in Perth, Adelaide and Cairns — before the first Test, as opposed to the two initially offered. Sufficient acclimatisation periods have also been obtained for both the main party and the supplementary one-day players.

England were not keen to play the first two Tests back-to-back, as Australia have imposed, and they were strongly resistant to the length of the one-day tournament, which involves five games each against Australia and Sri Lanka and a best-of-three final. England suggested the teams should only meet twice or, at worst, three times.

Yesterday, Pack was looking at the bright side of the schedule. "The increased number of one-day matches is designed to boost the England squad's chances of success in the World Cup," he said. "Taking on two of the finest one-day sides in the world represents the ideal form of preparation."

Whether a 13-match grind is ideal, though, is highly debatable, especially as England's one-day specialists will be playing in an ICC event in Bangladesh during October — which means some must join the Ashes tour late — and a tournament in Sharjah during March or April. There is a point at which match preparation topples into burn-out.

LAURENCE GRIFFITHS/ALLSPORT



Dougie Brown plays an unorthodox shot into the off side as Warwickshire's batsmen struggle for runs at The Oval yesterday

Tudor at centre of Surrey puzzle

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

THE OVAL (first day of four; Surrey won toss): Warwickshire have made 102 for four

THE season is a week young but some rum things are going on at The Oval. Keith Medlycott, promoted coach, as they might say in the armed forces, is talking with a South African accent not entirely explained by his recent winter sojourns in the republic. Hardly less peculiar is the demotion of Alex Tudor, the 20-year-old fast bowling hope, behind Joey Benjamin, who is 17 years his senior.

Benjamin took the new ball yesterday on a morning when Surrey were glad to be bowling and, to be frank, bowled like a man whose future is behind him. One doesn't want to be too hard on Surrey, who have provided England with half a dozen Test players in as many years, but does it really make sense to hold Tudor back at this time of year, and this time of his life, if he is fit and capable of getting the ball half-decently to the other end?

Perhaps, now that Lewis has rejoined Leicestershire, they do not want to rely on two young bowlers, for Ben Hollioake is also 20, with many a step to take before he comes of age. Hollioake bowled some good balls yesterday, as well as some fairly loose ones, but that will surprise nobody. He has natural talent in abundance, though he could do with somebody helping him to amend a run-up that lacks proper shape at the moment of delivery.

He might have taken a wicket with his first ball, when Knight top-edged a pull over the head of the slips. At the end of that over he thought he had earned a wicket, when Lara offered no stroke to a ball that brushed his front pad, but umpire Balderstone was not wrong to assume it would have maintained its course beyond the off stump. Mind you, it was too close for Lara to be so dismissive.

Bicknell, who opened with eight overs from the pavilion end, struck in the first of them when Ostler played on. Poor Ostler has yet to get off the mark in the championship, having completed a pair in the last match, against Durham. It was Bicknell's only wicket but once again he made one rue the fact that injuries have prevented him from becoming the bowler that he wanted to be, and England needed.

Knight played as Knight does, middling some shots and occasionally offering less of the bat to the ball. Butcher, who wobbled the ball about, won an lbw decision against him and Hemp promptly drove a catch to gully.

Lara began with some imperious strokes off Benjamin, and for a time looked to be overqualified for the game everybody else was playing, until he swung Butcher towards deep square leg where Salisbury took the catch. Brown and Penney carried the innings until lunch when rain prevented further play.

SCOREBOARD

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings
N V Knight lbw b Butcher 27
D P Ostler b Bicknell 0
*B C Lara c Salisbury b Butcher 38
D L Hemp c A J Hollioake b B C Hollioake 2
T L Penney not out 17
D R Brown not out 15
Extras (lb 1, nb 2) 3
Total (4 wkts, 33 overs) 102
N M K Smith, †K J Piper, G Welch, T A Munton and E S H Giddins to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-59, 3-62, 4-82.
BOWLING: Bicknell 10-2-20-1; Benjamin 9-2-36-0; B C Hollioake 6-0-25-1; Butcher 7-3-20-2; A J Hollioake 1-1-0-0
SURREY: J D Ratcliffe, M A Butcher, G P Thorpe, *A J Hollioake, A D Brown, N Shahid, B C Hollioake, †J N Batty, I D K Salisbury, M P Bicknell, J E Benjamin.
Bonus points: Surrey 1 Warwickshire 0
Umpires: J C Balderstone and D R Shepherd.

Adams shows his appetite for new role

BY PAT GIBSON

CHELMSFORD (first day of four; Essex won toss): Sussex have scored 186 for four wickets against Essex

CHRIS ADAMS probably slept with his pads on and his bat under his pillow last night. He was within 14 runs of a century when rain closed in on the County Ground and he will be in a hurry to get back there this morning to complete a dream start to his new career as Sussex captain.

In his first championship match, he led last year's wooden spoonists to an improbable two-wicket victory over Lancashire. In his second, he responded with alacrity when Essex questioned the strength of the Sussex batting by putting them in on a pitch tinged with green.

There is no more ambitious cricketer in England than Adams, which is why he was so determined to leave Derbyshire and try to make a name for himself elsewhere. There is no more ambitious county than Sussex after the misery of recent seasons. And they seem to be made for each other.

For a start, Adams is nothing if not positive. When he lost the toss, he let it be known that he would have batted anyway and his attitude seemed to rub off on Taylor, who was soon driving Williams sweetly to the boundary and had made 35 out of 52, including four more fours, when he played across the line of a ball from Irani which nipped back to have him leg-before.

There was some swing, a little movement off the seam and, later, a degree of turn for Such but Essex did not use the conditions well. All those hours spent bowling in the nets in the Caribbean do not seem to have done much for Cowan's rhythm while Williams, deputising for the injured Ilott, was out of luck when he had Peirce dropped by Stuart Law at second slip.

It was left to Irani and Graham Napier, playing in only his second championship match in place of Danny Law, the former Sussex all-rounder, to show what could be achieved.

Napier, a tidy medium pacer, had his reward when Peirce could not withdraw his bat in time from a ball which left him and Stuart Law pouched a rather more difficult catch than the one he had dropped.

By then, however, Adams was into his belligerent stride. The pressure of being the highest paid English player in county cricket is not going to make any difference to the way he plays and seven of his first eight scoring strokes were boundaries as Essex made the mistake of bowling too short.

Carpenter had helped Adams put on 70 in 18 overs when he was bowled trying to sweep a straight one from Such and Rao, who had eclipsed Adams in last year's NatWest Trophy quarter-final at Derby, when both of them made centuries, seem to be trying to do it again until he was caught behind off Grayson's left-arm spin.

When the rain, which had already held up play for more than an hour, returned at tea it was fairly obvious that there would be no more play yet Adams, stranded on 86, including 14 fours, still had his pads on 90 minutes later.

SCOREBOARD

SUSSEX: First Innings
N R Taylor lbw b Irani 35
M T E Peirce c Law b Napier 20
*C J Adams not out 86
J Carpenter b Such 19
R K Rao c Rollins b Grayson 12
K Newell not out 3
Extras (lb 4, nb 8) 12
Total (4 wkts, 54 overs) 186
†P Moores, P W Jarvis, A A Khan, J D Lewry and R J Kirtley to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-52, 2-80, 3-130, 4-172
BOWLING: Cowan 11-3-27-0; Williams 10-3-43-0; Napier 10-3-44-1; Irani 12-4-37-1; Such 7-1-28-1; Grayson 4-1-5-1.
ESSEX: *P J Prichard, D D J Robinson, N Hussain, S G Law, R C Irani, A P Grayson, †R J Rollins, G R Napier, N F Williams, A P Cowan, P M Such.
Bonus points: Essex 1 Sussex 0
Umpires: J H Hams and R Palmer

Yorkshire lose Stemp

RICHARD STEMP withdrew yesterday from the Yorkshire side playing Derbyshire at Headingley with a thigh strain aggravated during the defeat of Somerset earlier this week (Simon Wilde writes). Stemp originally sustained the injury during over-vigorous training in the indoor nets — his response to being omitted from the county's pre-season tour of South Africa because he had failed to fulfil practice requirements during the winter.

Play was confined to a 23-ball spell shortly after lunch by heavy overnight rain and afternoon showers. Yorkshire, after choosing to bat, scored five without loss.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings
A McGrath not out 0
M P Vaughan not out 3
Extras (nb 2) 2
Total (no wkt, 3.5 overs) 5
*D Byas, M J Wood, C White, B Parker, †R J Blakey, D Gough, C E W Silverwood, P M Hutchison and T D Fisher to bat.
BOWLING: DeFreitas 2-2-0-0; Cork 1.5-0-5-0.
DERBYSHIRE: A S Rollins, M R May, T A Tweats, K J Barnett, M E Cassar, *D G Cork, †K M Krikken, I D Blackwell, P A J DeFreitas, P Aldred, A J Harris.
Umpires: K E Palmer and G Sharp

NO PLAY YESTERDAY: Chester-le-Street: Durham v Gloucestershire Cardiff: Glamorgan v Essex. Southampton: Hampshire v Northamptonshire Old Trafford: Lancashire v Middlesex. Leicester: Leicestershire v Worcestershire Taunton: Somerset v Nottinghamshire.

South Africa plan to extend squad

BY SIMON WILDE

THE full extent of the task facing England in the coming months is becoming clear. Hours after details of their tour of Australia were released yesterday, South Africa were due to announce a 20-man party to visit England this summer.

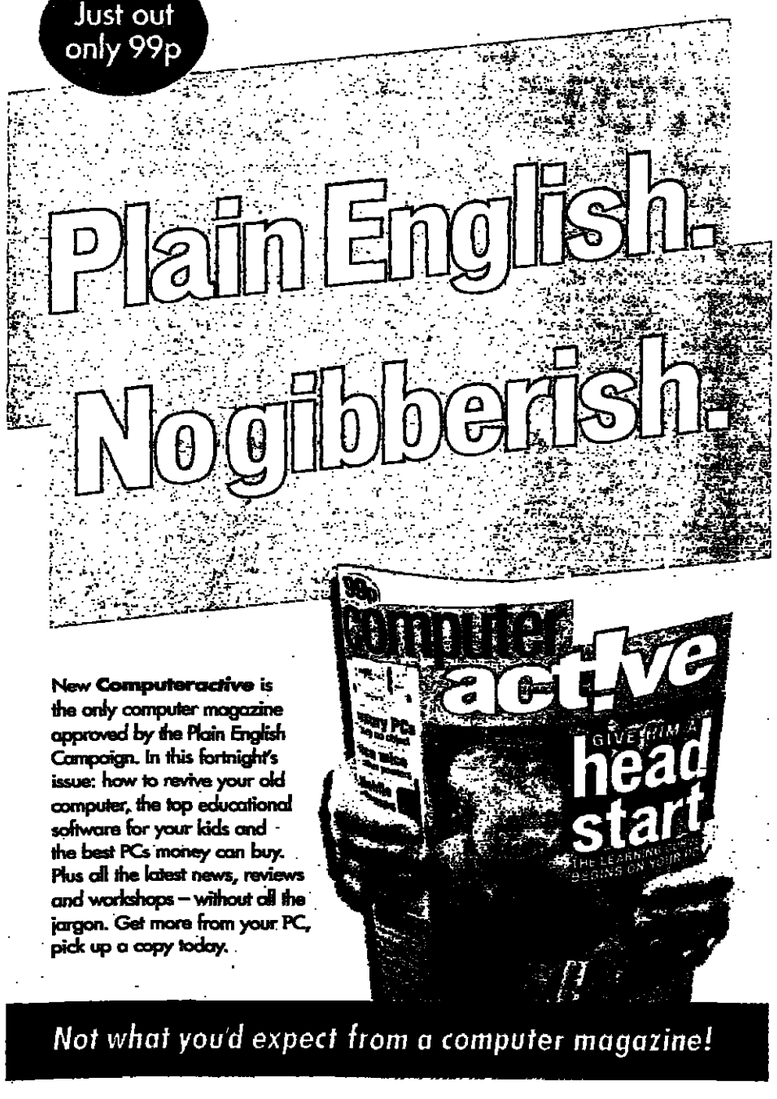
There is a tale behind its unusually large size. The ethnic make-up of the South Africa cricket team has become almost as contentious an issue as that of their rugby XV. Protest groups have been applying pressure for a truly representative side and Ali Bacher, chief executive of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA), and Hansie Cronje, the captain, were obliged to restate the multi-racial message. Bacher spoke of the need to "embrace the whole nation".

The squad has been expanded to include three or four cricketers from South Africa's development programme that has been producing players of quality for several years now. Not as many of these as might be expected, though, have been finding their way into the national side, or indeed senior provincial sides. Scope for their involvement has been enhanced by the retirement of senior white players such as de Villiers and Richardson.

Those chosen are sure to include Makhaya Ntini, who last month became the first black African to represent South Africa in a Test. He toured England with the under-19 side three years ago.

Ntini will probably be joined by Roger Telemachus, another black bowler, who was named in South Africa's party to tour Australia during the winter but withdrew with fitness problems. He was a member of the national one-day team that took part in a triangular tournament this month. Two Cape coloureds, Paul Adams and Herschelle Gibbs, were sure to be named.

SOUTH AFRICA PARTY (possible): W J Cronje (capt), G Kirsten (vice-capt), P R Adams, A M Bacher, M V Boucher, D N Crookes, D J Cullinan, A A Donald, S Elworthy, H H Gibbs, J H Kallis, L Klusener, B M McMillan, T Ngoepwana, M Ntini, S M Pollock, J N Rhodes, M J R Rindel, P L Symcox, R Telemachus.



MOTOR RACING

Villeneuve marks time as title challenge stalls

BY KEVIN EASON

IT COULD almost have seemed a clear signal that this was going to be a relaxed season for Jacques Villeneuve, the world Formula One champion. Testing on the Barcelona circuit was over and Mick Doohan, the four-times 500cc world motorcycle racing champion, had spun the Williams grand-prix car during a stunt to prove his abilities as a potential Formula One driver.

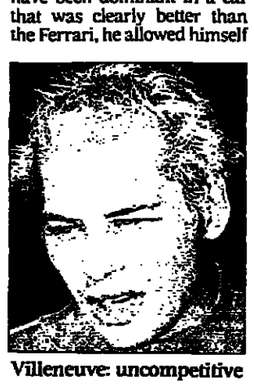
Yesterday Tommi Makinen, the motor rallying world champion, took his turn, a sponsor-inspired test to discover just how fast a Formula One car can be in inexperienced hands. Whether or not Makinen or Doohan had been faster mattered little. Villeneuve is quick and secure in his position as Williams's No 1 driver. What the world wants to know, as the fourth grand prix of the season at Imola approaches, is whether he is anything like the genius he was billed to be.

Last year, when he should have been dominant in a car that was clearly better than the Ferrari, he allowed himself to be intimidated by Michael Schumacher right up to the final race. He has barely been an issue in the drivers' championship this year. The trouble is that Williams is the most successful manufacturer of Formula One cars of its time: nine constructors' titles won in 18 years. Frank Williams made world champions of Alan Jones, Alain Prost, Nigel Mansell, Damon Hill and Villeneuve. Apart from the latter, they were all drivers that Williams seemed able to dispense with easily.

Villeneuve stayed for a third season, though his world championship-winning year came after a nerve-racking tussle with Schumacher, when most team owners believed he should have wrapped the championship up early thanks to his superior car.

This year, the tables are turned and Villeneuve has been asked to emulate Schumacher — turn an average car into a winner — and it has been beyond him. Is it because Villeneuve cannot hit back or has he given up? Speculation grows that he is content to rest on his laurels and wait for a future committed to the new British American Racing team, which took over Tyrrell and is run by Craig Pollock, his manager.

Williams is not used to seeing his cars making up the numbers and expects better at the San Marino Grand Prix on Sunday, where Williams have won for the past three seasons. But is it within the grasp or even the will of Villeneuve?



Villeneuve: uncompetitive

Coulthard questions conduct of drivers

WHAT a difference a race makes. Michael Schumacher's victory two weeks ago has put a spring in his step at Imola and yesterday he confidently predicted victory in the San Marino Grand Prix on Sunday (Kevin Eason writes).

Meanwhile, David Coulthard was still smarting from Schumacher's muscular overtaking manoeuvre that probably cost the Scot victory in Argentina a fortnight ago. "If what had happened in Argentina had taken place in the 1950s there would have been a real possibility of a death," Coulthard said. We have to look at drivers' ethics.

"All that happened in Argentina was that I came off worse. But quite clearly Michael drove into the side of my car. The fault on my part was giving him the chance to do that, because Michael will go for any gap that he can find. As a driver, I would do the same if there is a gap.

"But I won't deliberately try to push someone off the road or force them into a wall."

BOWLS

Ashby brings end to Le Long's run

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

IN ALL respects but one, Lindsey Le Long, from St Helier on the island of Jersey, seems like a typical teenager. What sets her apart from the crowd, and provokes a certain amount of gentle ribbing from her friends, however, is her penchant for the ancient game of bowls, which she took up four years ago, when she was 13.

On Monday, she defeated Margaret Johnston, of Ireland, who is generally regarded as the best woman bowler in the world, and, as if that were not enough, she added a straight-sets victory over Julie Davies, the Welsh champion, yesterday, and duly qualified for the quarter-finals of the women's world indoor singles championship at Llanelli.

When she won the Jersey women's indoor title in February, a month before her 17th birthday, Le Long not only became the youngest winner of that title, but, probably, the youngest-ever national singles champion in the history of the sport.

"I used to think that bowls was for old people and fuddy duddies," she said. "Under pressure from my grandparents, who used to play, my parents, Gina and Peter, took it up in 1992, and I teased them mercilessly about it — until I had a go myself.

"Now I've changed my mind about the game. It's skilful and exciting, and age simply does not come into it. It's also a sociable game, which forces you to mix with people of all ages."

Le Long is still a tad self-conscious about the uniform which she has to wear and, although she confirms to the regulations on the green, she is quick to change out of "those long skirts" as soon as she gets home, before going out for a night on the town in St Helier.

She was looking for some nightlife in Llanelli yesterday, after Carol Ashby, the English champion, from Eastbourne, had foiled her hopes of getting into the semi-finals.

"I feel drained, but not disappointed," Le Long said, after Ashby had won, 7-3, 2-7, 7-3, 7-4. "I was delighted to get through my group, because no one gave me a chance against the likes of Margaret and Julie."

Ashby confessed that it was a new experience to play someone younger than herself, and that she identified strongly with Le Long. The Eastbourne player, who is only 30, took up bowls when she was 14, but soon gave the sport up.

"I discovered boys," she said. "Consequently, my early bowls career lasted only one season, but I returned to the greens when I was 19, and now I enjoy the game immensely."

Ashby, who has yet to play for England, is hoping to make it into the final today, and that her opponent will be Norma Shaw, the defending champion, from County Durham, who beat Linda Smith, of Hong Kong, 5-7, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, in the quarter-finals.

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GOLF: TEENAGE SPANIARD QUICK TO MAKE HIS MARK AS VOCIFEROUS FOLLOWING SHOWS APPROVAL

Garcia has home crowd in raptures

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN BARCELONA

THE biggest weight young golfers carry can be other people's expectations. This week, on a golf course between Barcelona airport and the Mediterranean, Sergio Garcia, 18, who is considered the best amateur to emerge from Spain since José Maria Olazábal 15 years ago, is feeling and, so far, coping with, the full measure of them.

Excited Spaniards cheered Garcia on to the tee at the El Prat golf club here and he gave a slightly embarrassed acknowledgement. They cheered more loudly when his approach shot pitched into the 7th green and spun viciously left so that he had only a two-foot putt. Then the cheers reached their pitch as his wind-assisted second to the 18th settled nine feet from the flag and he rolled in the putt for an eagle three.

Though Greg Chalmers, Jay Townsend and José Manuel Carriles lead after 64s, eight under par, and David Howell and Jean Van de Velde are one stroke behind, Garcia's 66 dominated the first day of the Peugeot Spanish Open. Europe needs exciting, talented amateur golfers and Garcia seems to fit the bill, outscoring five of the six Ryder Cup players in the field. Olazábal also had a 66.

Garcia began with four successive birdies from his second hole before his only bogey came on the 16th, his seventh. It is not uncommon for amateurs to be caught out by the professional game's time limits and, after taking 87 seconds to play his second shot to the 4th, Garcia was given an official warning for slow play by John Paramor, the tour's chief referee.

"He walks, talks and plays like a professional," Joakim Haeggman, the Swedish Ryder Cup player who was paired with Garcia, said. "He has a few things to learn. In time he might have to rein himself in a hair. He is very Spanish in the way he gets up there and gives it an enormous heave, but he looks OK."

Garcia's swing contains an unsightly flail just as he begins the downswing and, in time, this could cause him problems. "A lot of people work hard not to do that," Simon Holmes, a teaching professional, said. "It is a very typical young man's swing. Generally that swing is not reliable. He has to firm it up. But he has a fantastic feel for the game and, playing in everything, he is getting all the right experience. He is a very mature 18-year-old."

Garcia is distinctive, according to Olazábal, because he combines an outstanding short game with exceptional length. On a calm, sunny day on a course of 6,700 yards that was almost too easy, these two aspects of Garcia's game enabled him to score so well. His drives on the 8th and 9th, for example, both wind-assisted, were nearly 340 yards. He putted beautifully, demonstrating the fearlessness of youth in the way that he rapped his putts past the hole, confident in his ability to hole the next one.

Michael Welch, from Shropshire, appeared to have a glittering future after he won many of the amateur events he entered a few years ago, but is now scratching around in the margins of professional golf. So, too, is Gordon Sherry, whose potential seemed as large as his 6ft 7in frame when he turned professional in 1996. Will Garcia succeed where these two seem not to have?

He will face many more demanding days than this, when 101 men were under par. "Time will tell," Severiano Ballesteros, who takes a fatherly concern in his young countryman, said. "But if things go right he will become a great champion."

TIM MATTHEWS / ALLSPORT



Olazábal on his way to a 66 yesterday, a return matched by the player considered to be the finest Spanish amateur to follow him, Sergio Garcia

FOOTBALL: NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE HAS INITIAL TASK OF SETTLING CHAIRMEN'S DISPUTE OVER TELEVISION REVENUE

Scudamore takes charge

RICHARD SCUDAMORE has been appointed as the first chief executive of the Football League. One of his initial tasks, when he takes over at the end of next month, will be to help to restore order between the chairmen of the Nationwide League first division clubs and their counterparts in the second and third divisions.

The rival factions have been arguing over their shares of television revenue, with the first division clubs seeking a greater percentage. Discussions were held in London last week and it is likely that club representatives will meet again before the League's annual meeting in June.

Scudamore, 38, born in England, but not related to the Scudamore horse-racing family, is vice-president of the Thomson Newspaper Corporation in New York. A qualified football referee, he will be based in London and assume responsibility for the League's entire operations.

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

Arsène Wenger is contemplating signing more Frenchmen for Arsenal. He is understood to have held talks with representatives of Robert Pires and Stephane Guivarc'h, both France international strikers, despite declaring his reluctance to add to the Gallic contingent of six, including himself, at Highbury.

Fulham are likely to have to agree to a "must-play" clause if they are to sign Jean-Pierre Papin, the former France striker, similar to that of Jürgen Klinsmann, who returned to Tottenham Hotspur on the condition that, if fit, he had to be selected to play in every match. Papin, 34, said yesterday: "I would like London very much. It is not about money; I just want to play, not sit on the bench."

Brighton yesterday announced losses of £1.4 million for the financial year ending in May 1997, the season in which they left the Goldstone Ground. The Sussex club may also face a corporation tax bill of £1.3 million from the £7 million sale of their former home to property developers.

Clubs hear division bell toll

A SUMMER of heated argument has been guaranteed by the decision of the Vauxhall Conference to lodge notice of an application to the Football Association to run a second division from 1999-2000.

Bill King, the Conference chairman, said: "After nearly 20 years of existence, starting from lowly beginnings when we were created as an opening for clubs to reach the Football League, we've now got 17 clubs out of 22 of Football League standard, and we feel we've reached a position where we can run a competition that can have a closer relationship to the standards required of the Conference.

"We're acting upon soundings taken among clubs but there's no question of us inviting anybody to join; it's a matter of clubs making applications. Obviously we'd expect most applications from the feeder leagues as they are closest to us but any club could make an application."

The decision to proceed depends upon the Conference's annual meeting at Bristol on June 6, but is sure to herald a period of intense lobbying by clubs within the Dr Martens League, UniBond League and Ryman League as they seek to avert the possibility of losing their leading clubs.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL
BY WALTER GAMMIE

They will point, with some justice, to the quality of the clubs they have promoted to the Conference in the past and question whether clubs will be prepared to endure the costs and travelling of the relative anonymity of a Conference second divison. Dave Andrews, the chairman of Dagenham and Redbridge, of the Ryman League, however, had no doubts. "We're delighted," he said. "The Conference is a high profile competition. It is the place for an ambitious club to be."

Barrow clinched promotion to the Conference by beating Boston United 1-0 with a goal by Karl Marginson before an all-ticket crowd of 2,765 at Holker Street on Tuesday.

BADMINTON

Morgan makes certain of bronze

FROM RICHARD EATON
IN SOFIA

KELLY MORGAN, by overcoming the sore throat which has bothered her all this week and the powerfully built Pole, Katarzyna Krazowska, yesterday became the first Welsh singles player to win a medal at a European championship. Morgan's 11-5, 11-4 success in the quarter-finals here also gave her the chance of being the first British player for eight years to contest a European singles final.

Morgan, 22, whose development was hampered by lack of finance, is now aided by lottery funding and is a better player for it. She raced to early leads in both games with clever overhead drops and superior net play and, afterwards, was able to conserve energy which she seems certain to need in today's semi-final against an opponent she has never beaten, the second-seeded Dane, Mette Pedersen. "I will need to be patient. I will have to stay with her," Morgan said.

The last surviving English singles player, Mark Constable, again acquitted himself admirably. After two wins over seeded opponents, Constable took the world champion, Peter Rasmussen, the full distance and might have won had he been able to contain the left-handed Dane's brilliantly disguised attacks for just a little longer.

At 10-9 in the second game Rasmussen, who has been sidelined for ten weeks recently with an ankle injury, began to find his touch and then he advanced rapidly to win 3-15, 15-9, 15-1.

Rasmussen now plays the top seed, Peter Gade, while the Olympic champion, Poul-Erik Hoyer, came through to meet Kenneth Jonassen, ensuring Denmark would take all the men's singles medals. Jonassen had the toughest match of the four Danish men and his recovery to win 5-15, 15-11, 15-5 against the former European finalist, Thomas Johansson, unsettled the Swede so much that he twice angrily threw rackets a long way out of court.

Denmark are hoping to equal their record at the last European championships, where they won six gold medals, but even that will not completely satisfy the team manager, Henrik Lyngby.

"We've set ourselves another target, winning 11 medals — one more than last time," he said. "We need to aim for that to keep our motivation high."

England are sure of at least three medals in doubles after encouraging successes in the men's and women's events.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Operation to keep Catt out of tour

■ **RUGBY UNION:** Mike Catt, the Bath fly half, seems certain to miss England's tour to the southern hemisphere this summer. Catt will have keyhole surgery on his right ankle next Wednesday and is expected to be out of action for six to eight weeks, which would prevent him leaving with the tour party during the last week of May. He damaged a hamstring playing on the wing against Ireland but floating bone at the back of his ankle is causing inflammation and Bath are keen to have him fit to start next season.

■ **REAL TENNIS:** **Newcomer Hailey Skinner pulled off the biggest win of her Real Tennis career when she fought off the determined challenge of the highly-experienced Melvyn Pignon, the former England hockey captain, to reach the quarter-finals of the British women's open championships. Skinner, of Hampton Court, who has been playing real tennis for under two years but is an outstanding lawn tennis player, led 5-2 in the deciding set after a string of spectacular winning smashes. Pignon retrieved brilliantly however to level the match at 5-5 but Skinner kept her nerve to earn herself a match against the former world doubles champion Alex Garside.**

■ **SHOOTING:** Antony Ringer, of Norfolk, the present world long range rifle champion and last year's Queen's Prize winner, with Andy Luckman of Somerset, also a former Queen's Prize winner, have been selected to shoot for England at the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia next year. The pair, and Stuart Collings, of Buckinghamshire, who has been selected as reserve, are shooting with the Shearwater Great Britain Rifle Team in Bloemfontein, South Africa, this week.

■ **CRICKET:** **Ricky Ponting, the Australia batsman, and Harbhajan Singh, the India off-spinner, were fined after a confrontation in their three-nation one-day tournament match. Ponting was fined 20 per cent of his match fee while Singh was fined 50 per cent of his fee and given a suspended ban until the end of next month.**

TODAY'S FIXTURES

kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Nationwide League
First division
Port Vale v Middlesbrough (7.45)
Second division
Wigan v Millwall (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland division: Redditch Utd v Stourbridge.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Bradford P A v Congleton Town, Great Harwood Town v Grolna, Netherfield v Whitley Bay; Whitby Town v Stocksbridge
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: Second division: East Grinstead Town v Sidlesham, Oakwood v Withdean, Shinewater Assoc v Sidley Utd, Bexhill Town v Southwick.
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridport v Bristol Manor Farm; Bridgwater Town v Brislington; Odd Down v Westbury Utd, Tiverton Town v Mellsham Town, Barnstaple Town v Bideford; Chippenham Town v Chard Town
RYMAN LEAGUE: First division: Croydon v Berkhamsted Town, Barton Rovers v Leatherhead Second division: Banstead Athletic v Leighton Town Third division: Clapton v Dorking
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Alc Newbury v Bemerton Heath Harl
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Highgate Utd v G P T (Coventry), Massey Ferguson v Coventry Sphinx. First division: Shirley Town v Alveston

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance
county championship
110, second day of four, 104 overs minimum
CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v Gloucestershire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Sussex
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Kent
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Northamptonshire.
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Middlesex
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Worcestershire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Nottinghamshire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Warwickshire
HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v Derbyshire
Second XI championship (final day of three): CANTERBURY: *Kent v Yorkshire*
NOTTINGHAM: Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire.

RUGBY LEAGUE

JJB Super League
Leeds Rhinos v Salford Reds (7.45)

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world indoor championship (in Llanelli)
MOTORCYCLING: British superbike championship, second round (at Oulton Park).
SNOOKER: Embassy world championship (at The Crucible, Sheffield)
SPEEDWAY: British under-21 championship: Final (at Arena Essex, 8.0); *International challenge:* Belle Vue v Kapema (Swe) (7.30). Speedway Star Cup: Oxford v Wolverhampton (7.30) Premier League Cup: Edinburgh v Sheffield (7.30). Peterborough v Newport (7.45) Challenge: Isle of Wight v Exeter (7.30)

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesota 4 Oakland 2. Boston 9 Detroit 5, NY Yankees 9 Toronto 1, Chicago White Sox 14 Cleveland 7, Texas 7 Tampa Bay 2, Anaheim 7 Baltimore 6, Seattle 11 Kansas City 5
NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego 3 Chicago Cubs 2 (14 innings), Florida 3 Colorado 2, Los Angeles 9 Milwaukee 6, Montreal 3 St Louis 2, Philadelphia 5 Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 5 San Francisco 2, Atlanta 5 Arizona 2, NY Mets 10 Houston 7

CRICKET

One-day internationals
Triangular tournament final
South Africa v Pakistan
NEWLANDS (South Africa won toss). South Africa beat Pakistan by nine wickets

PAKISTAN

Saeed Anwar c Boucher b Klusener	30
Mohammad Wasim run out	8
Ijaz Ahmed c Kirsten b Telemachus	0
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Boucher b Cronje	21
Moin Khan c Rindel b Klusener	19
Wasim Akram run out	2
Azhar Mahmood b Klusener	0
*†Rashid Latif c Rhodes b Klusener	3
Abdul Razzak c Kallis b Klusener	6
Waqar Younis c Kallis b Telemachus	15
Mushtaq Ahmad not out	0
Extras (lb 1, w 8, nb 1)	10
Total (37.1 overs)	114

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-27, 3-54, 4-84, 5-87, 6-87, 7-90, 8-93, 9-113
BOWLING: *Pollock 8-1-13-0; Telemachus 10-1-31-2, Donald 6-1-27-0, Klusener 7 1-1-25-5, Cronje 6-1-17-1*

SOUTH AFRICA

M J R Rindel c Rashid b Wasim	20
G Kirsten not out	52
J H Kallis not out	36
Extras (lb 4, w 6, nb 5)	15
Total (1 wkt, 27.4 overs)	115

D J Cullinan, *†W J Cronje, J N Rhodes, S M Pollock, L Klusener, †M V Boucher, A A Donald, R Telemachus did not bat*
FALL OF WICKET: 1-54.
BOWLING: Wasim Akram 10-1-29-1; Waqar Younis 9-1-32-0, Azhar Mahmood 4-0-17-0; Abdul Razzak 2-0-17-0, Mushtaq Ahmed 2 4-0-16-0.

Wednesday's late result

Sharjah Cup
Australia v India
SHARJAH (Australia won toss). Australia beat India by 26 runs

AUSTRALIA

†A C Gilchrist c Mongia b Harvinder	11
M E Waugh c Ganguly b Tendulkar	81
R T Ponting st Mongia b Harbhajan	31
D Marsyn b Kumble	1
M G Bevan not out	101
*S R Waugh run out (Tendulkar)	10
D S Lehmann b Prasad	26
T M Moody c Azharuddin b Prasad	5
S K Warne not out	7
Extras (lb 4, w 6, nb 1)	11
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	284

M Kasprowicz, D Fleming did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-84, 3-87, 4-177, 5-197, 6-250, 7-271
BOWLING: Prasad 8-0-41-2; H Singh 7-0-44-1; A Kumble 10-0-41-1; H Singh 8-0-63-1, S Ganguly 2-0-15-0, H Kanitkar 6-0-33-0, V Laxman 4-0-16-0 S Tendulkar 5-0-27-1

INDIA

S C Ganguly lbw b Fleming	17
S R Tendulkar c Gilchrist b Fleming	142
†N R Mongia c Mark b Moody	35
*M Azharuddin b Moody	14
A D Jadeja c Gilchrist b Steve	1
V V S Laxman not out	23
H Kanitkar not out	5
Extras (lb 6, w3, nb4)	13
Total (5 wkts, 46 overs)	250

A Kumble, H Singh, V Prasad, H Singh did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-107, 3-135, 4-136, 5-242
BOWLING: Fleming 10-0-47-2; Kasprowicz 9-0-55-0, Warne 9-0-38-0, Moody 9-0-39-2; Waugh 9-0-65-1.
☐ India's winning target reduced to 276 from 46 overs, leaving them needing 237 to qualify for the final, after sandstorm interrupted play
THE PARKS (40-over match): Oxford University 195-8; Loughborough University 98-5 (20 overs) Loughborough won by five wickets on faster scoring rate over 20 overs

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results
INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: England 3 Portugal 0; N Ireland 1 Switzerland 0; Ireland 0 Argentina 2, Scotland 1 Finland 1, Denmark 0 Norway 2, Germany 1 Nigeria 0; Italy 3 Paraguay 1; Belgium 1 Romania 1, Russia 1 Turkey 0; Yugoslavia 3 South Korea 1; Austria 0 United States 3; Croatia 4 Poland 1, Sweden 0 France 0.
UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: Italy 2 Wales 1
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Gateshead 1 Hereford 1.
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Midland division: Paget 0 Wisbech 3, VS Rugby 0 Ilkeston 7, Southern division: Dartford 0 Clevedon 1
FA PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE: Play-offs, *first round: Tottenham Hotspur Under-18 2* Coventry City Under-18 0
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Brierley Hill 4 Walsall Wood 0 League cup: Third round, second leg: Kington 3 Stourport 2 (agg 6-3).
FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Finn Harps 1 Cork 2.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Charlton Athletic 1 Southampton 1; Luton Town 2 Chelsea 2; Portsmouth 4 Ipswich Town 1; Swindon Town 2 Watford 4; Arsenal 0 Millwall 1.
OPTIMUM INTERIORS CAPITAL LGE: Cambridge United 1 Reading 2; Rushden and Diamonds 5 Leyton Orient 2, Wycombe Wanderers 2 Brentford 1, Welling United 0 Peterborough United 2
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Birmingham City 0 Aston Villa 1, Manchester United 7 Everton 0 First division: Bolton Wanderers 1 Oldham Athletic 1, Middlesbrough 1 Manchester City 1; West Bromwich Albion 3 Wolverhampton Wanderers 1 Second division: *Burnley 1 Rotherham United 1*, Rochdale 2 Sheffield United 0, Shrewsbury Town 2 Blackpool 1. Third division: Scunthorpe United 0 Newcastle United 1; Walsall 3 *Doncaster Rovers 1*
UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL: Italy 2 Wales 1
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Gateshead 1 Hereford 1.
FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Wolverhampton 4 Blowich 0
DUTCH LEAGUE: NAC Breda 1 Vitesse Arnhem 3; Fortuna Sittard 1 PSV Eindhoven 2; Feyenoord 1 Roda JC Kerkrade 0; FC Twente 3 SC Heerenveen 1
TEHRAN: Four-nation tournament: Final: Hungary 0 Macedonia 0 (Hungary won 4-2 on pens)
COPA LIBERTADORES: Second round, first leg: America (Mex) 1 River Plate (Arg) 1; Alianza (Peru) 1 Penarol (Uru) 0

GOLF

BARCELONA: Spanish Open: Leading first-round scores (GB and Ire unless stated): 64: G Chalmers (Aus), J Townsend (US), J M Carriles (Sp), 65: D Howell, J Van de Velde (Fr) 66: J M Olazábal (Sp), S Allan (Aus), E Romero (Arg), S Garcia (Sp), D Chopra (Swe), P Sjoland (Swe), R Allenby (Aus), A Larrazabal (Sp) 67: D Hospital (Sp), P Hamington, A Cabrera (Arg), M Tunnicliff, G Brand Jnr, K Brink (Swe), I Giner (Sp), I Garbutt, M A Jimenez (Sp), P Price, K Tomori (Japan) 68: J Remesy (Fr), J Sandelin (Swe), J Lomas, R Chapman, D Carter, C Suneson (Sp), E Darcy, S Luna (Sp), P Lawrie, S Field, P Eales, M James. C Hamilne (US), T Levet (Fr), D Cooper, T Bjorn (Den), C Whitelow (SA), P Fulke (Swe)

HOCKEY

MASSACHUSETTS: *Four Nations tournament:* England 6 India 0

ICE HOCKEY

LJUBLJANA, Slovenia: World championship: Group B: Ukraine 3 Estonia 1, Norway 4 Great Britain 3, Slovenia 4 *Denmark 4; Poland 5 Holland 4.*
NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL) Play-offs: First round: Eastern Conference: Ottawa 2 New Jersey 1 (OT), Buffalo 3 Philadelphia 2; Washington 3 Boston 1 Western Conference: Dallas 4 San Jose 1; Edmonton 3 Colorado 2; Detroit 6 Phoenix 3

MOTOR RALLYING

LLORET DE MAR: Catalan Rally: Final positions (after third leg, 367 40km) 1, D Auriol (Fr, Toyota) 4hr 18min 36.9sec; 2, F Loix (Bel, Toyota) at 53.4sec; 3, T Makinen (Fin, Mitsubishi) 1min 09.4sec; 4, R Burns (GB, Mitsubishi), 1:33.5; 5, P Bugalski (Fr, Citroen), 1:51.4; 6, G Panizzi (Fr, Peugeot) 2-27.1 World Championship positions (after two rounds). Drivers: 1, C Sainz (Sp, Toyota) 22pts. 2, Burns 18, 3, J Kankkunen (Fin, Ford) 18, equal 4, C McRae (GB, Subaru), Makinen, Auriol 14

RUGBY UNION

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP: First division: Wasps 18 Newcastle 17, Northampton 33 London Irish 18. Second division: Moseley 31 Coventry 3
TENNENTS PREMIERSHIP: Division 1A: Currie 5 Watsonians 56. Division 1B: Stirling County 18 Edinburgh Acads 13. Division 2A: Kelso 32 Gala 22 Division 3B: *Hillhead/Jordanhill 9 Ayr 21*

SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Seventh leg (finishing positions): 1, BrunelSunergy (Holl) leg pts 105, total pts 353. 2, Swedish Match (Swe) 82, 585, 3, EF Language (Swe) 61, 669; 4, Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 70, 519, 5, Sa. Cul (GB) 60, 459, 6, Merit Cup (Monaco) 50, 527, 7, Toshiba (US) 40, 383, 8, Chessie Racing (US) 30, 484; 9, EF Education (Swe) 20, 168.

SNOOKER

SHEFFIELD: Embassy world championship: First round: M Stevens (Wales) bt A Robidoux (Can) 10-8. Latest positions: First round: J White (Eng) leads S Hendry (Scot) 8-1. Second round: A Hamilton (Eng) leads J Higgins (Scot) 6-2.

TENNIS

ORLANDO: US Clay court championships: First round: A Pavel (Rom) bt S Draper (Aus) 7-5, 6-0 Second round: J Couner (US) bt D van Scheppingen (Holl) 6-2, 6-1; A Ilie (Aus) bt L Arnold (Arg) 6-3, 6-4, M Craca (Ger) bt J-M Gambill (US) bt 6-4, 6-4; M Tillstrom (Swe) bt G Pozzi (It) 6-4, 6-3. MONACO: Monte Carlo Open: Second round: A Corretja (Sp) bt A Medvedev (Ukr) 7-6, 6-4; C Moya (Sp) bt H Arazi (Mor) 6-1, 6-1. Third round: F Santoro (Fr) bt P Sampras (US) 6-1, 6-1, A Berasategui (Sp) bt *S Dosedel (Cz) 3-6, 6-3, 6-3*; Moya bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 6-2, 6-3, C Pioline (Fr) bt G Kuerten (Br) 7-6, 6-1, R Krajicek (Holl) bt B Ulihrach (Cz) 6-4, 6-0, Corretja bt A Gaudenz (It) 7-6, 6-4, P Korda (Cz) bt A Costa (Sp) 5-7, 6-4, 6-4; B Becker (Ger) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 6-1, 6-1

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS FROM THREE MEETINGS

Beverley

Going: soft

2.10 (5f) 1, Easter Ogil (L Dettori, 5-2); 2, Yanomami (8-1), 3, D'Marti (7-1). Chieftain (4th) 5-4 fav. 10 ran. Hd, 3l. I Balding Tote £3.50; £1.30, £2.10, £2.20 DF: £9.80 Tnc: £12.80 CSF: £22.81

2.40 (1m 1f 207yd) 1, Dancing Rio (C Lowther, 2-1 fav; Timekeeper's top rating); 2, Pony Love (16-1), 3, Time For Lager (8-1). 10 ran. 4l, 1¼l. P Haslam. Tote: £2.40; £1.20, £4.20, £1.80. DF: £35.40 CSF: £37.67 Tnc: £182.80 (part won Pool of £102.99 carried forward to 4.20 Perth today)

3.10 (7f 100yd) 1, Fizzed (D Holland, 9-1); 2, Jules Jewel (5-2 fav), 3, Sweet Reward (20-1) 13 ran. Nk, 3l. M Johnston. Tote: £11.90; £4.10, £1.40, £5.80. DF: £29.90 Trio: £138.40. CSF £32.88. Tricast: £366.12.

3.40 (1m 3f 216yd) 1, Seignorial (J Reid, 9-4); 2, Brimming (9-4); 3, Guildhall (2-1 fav). 4 ran NR Lucayan Spring, ¾l, 5l. P Chapple-Hyam Tote: £3.80 DF: £3.10. CSF: £7.09

4.10 (1m 1f 207yd) 1, Tycoon Tina (A McCarthy, 13-2); 2, Cabcharge Blue (10-1); 3, Needwood Nutkin (16-1) Lindrick Lady 4-1 fav 15 ran. ¾l, 2l. W Bristbourne Tote: £10.80, £2.50, £5.10, £3.50 DF: £74.00. Tnc: £243.80. CSF: £75.27. Tricast: £967.21.

4.40 (1m 1f 207yd) 1, Tensile (R Fitrench, 8-1); 2, Mesamades (10-1); 3, Dutch Lad (2-1 fav) 13 ran NR: Grailmano 3½l, 1l L Cumani. Tote: £11.00; £3.80, £2.90, £1.10 DF: £80.60 Tnc: £138.70. CSF: £80.28 Tricast: £206.61

Jackpot: £38,596.50 (0.49 winning tickets. Pool of £27,724.25 carried forward to Perth today).

Placepot: £574.50. Quadpot: £191.60.

Fontwell Park

Going: good to soft

2.00 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Clinton (Mr R Wakley, 11-8 fav), 2, Mr Chatsway (4-1); 3, Grete Times (11-2) 15 ran. NR: Take It Easy 23l, 4l K Bailey Tote: £2.20, £1.20, £1.30, £1.70 DF: £5.70. Trio: £4.30 CSF £6.21.

2.30 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Gigi Beach (T J Murphy, 7-2); 2, Dancetillyoudrop (7-1); 3, Boots Madden (9-4 fav). 10 ran. NR: Georgetown, Landcruiser 2½l, 9l P Nicholls. Tote: £3.40, £1.70, £2.70. £1.30. DF: £12.90 Trio: £9.10 CSF: £23.85.

3.00 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Belmore Rock (A P McCoy, 5-1); 2, Fountain Bid (7-2), 3, Enchanted Cottage (14-1). Kitochside Lad 3-1 fav 11 ran. 22l, 3½l. M Pipe. Tote: £4.40; £1.80, £2.00, £4.60. DF: £11.60. Trio: £81.50 CSF: £22.14. Tricast: £216.61.

3.30 (2m 2f ch) 1, Seymourswift (C Llewellyn, 6-4 fav); 2, Court Master (6-1); 3, Marius (7-2) 6 ran. NR: Far East. 7l, 3l. D Gandolfo Tote: £2.20; £1.50, £2.80. DF: £3.80 CSF: £10.50.

4.00 (3m 3f hdle) 1, Queen's Award (G Hogan, 25-1). 2, Hasham Boy (12-1); 3, Bright Flame (5-2 fav) 11 ran. ¾l, 19l R Buckler Tote: £32.90; £5.80, £3.70, £1.30 DF: £359.60 CSF: £285.09. Tricast: £947.78. Tnc: £288.80 (part won. Pool of £370.22 carried forward to 4.20 Perth today)

4.30 (2m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Siberian Henry (C Llewellyn, 8-1), 2, Bertholomew Fair (6-1), 3, Blueshaan (3-1 fav), 9 ran NR: Miners Glow, Rush 'N Win, Russian River. 9l, ½l B Smart. Tote: £12.80; £3.10, £1.40, £2.00 DF: £58.50. Trio: £50.70 CSF: £43.65. Celtic Firefly (5-1) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 15p in pound

5.00 (2m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Nobel Lad (A P McCoy, 7-1); 2, Kit's Rosa (10-3); 3, Oriental Style (10-1). Tree Creeper 6-4 fav 12 ran NR: Madam Lucy 2l, 5l. M Pipe. Tote: £5.80; £3.20, £1.60, £3.00 DF: £20.20 Tnc: £274.40 CSF: £30.82

Placepot: £29.60. Quadpot: £20.30.

Perth

Going: good to soft (soft in places)

2.20 (3m ch) 1, Secret Bay (Mr S Swiers, 8-15 fav); 2, By Crikey (33-1); 3, Sayin Now (6-1) 9 ran NR Loughinstown Boy 3½l, 12l C Dennis. Tote: £1.50, £1.10, £1.60, £1.60. DF: £10.10 Tno: £18.00 CSF: £22.22.

2.50 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Kit Smartie (P Carberry, 9-4); 2, Supreme Charm (8-11 fav), 3, Over The Beck (6-1), 7 ran 1½l, 14l. D Forster. Tote: £3.20; £1.50, £1.20 DF: £2.20. CSF: £4.02.

3.20 (2m ch) 1, Little Tuska (R Supple, 10-1). 2, Riding Crop (9-1), 3, Falcon's Flame (8-1) Whitegates Willie (4th) 9-4 fav 12 ran NR: Singing Bee. 12l, 1½l. N Mason Tote: £9.90; £2.90, £3.50, £2.60 DF: £55.20. Tno: £59.10 CSF: £80.29

3.50 (2m ch) 1, Crosshot (R Supple, 9-1); 2, Political Tower (10-1); 3, Tidebrook (11-8 fav). 8 ran. 16l, 8l. R McDonald Tote: £11.50, £1.90, £2.10, £1.70. DF: £54.20 CSF: £75.96. Tricast: £171.35

4.20 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Doubling Dice (N Williamson, 50-1), 2, Captain Tancred (16-1), 3, Brancepeth Belle (25-1) Americanval (4th) 13-8 fav 15 ran NR: Breydon 7l, 1½l. R Allan. Tote: £38.60; £6.30, £3.60, £8.40 DF: £136.10 Tno: not won (pool of £402.66 carried forward to 4.20 Perth today) CSF: £634.73

4.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Slaughi Son (B Harding, 50-1); 2, Ten Mile Hill (5-4 fav), 3, Parish (9-1) 9 ran. NR: Born To Please 9l, 5l Martin Todhunter Tote: £32.10; £6.20, £1.10, £1.40. DF: £56.60 Tno: £221.50 CSF: £105.98 Tricast: £808.32

Placepot: £373.70. Quadpot: £245.00.

COMPETITION THE TIMES

WIN A CLASSIC FERRARI 328 GTB

The leaderboard after the Argentine Grand Prix appears below with S Hide of Peterborough leading the race for the chance to win a classic Ferrari 328 GTB or a trip to either the 1999 Australian or Monaco Grands Prix. His team, Shaggy Racing, has 2,901 points and scored 844 points in Buenos Aires. In second place on 2,881 points is P Wilkinson of Wallasey whose team, Turbo Wilko, also scored 844 points. M Elem from New Malden, Surrey, holds third place on 2,852 points followed by L Skidmore of Chorley, Lancs on 2,813. Eleven readers share 15th place with 2,773 points. Full results of Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix will appear next Friday.

THE TIMES FANTASY FORMULA ONE

OUR LEADERBOARD AFTER THE ARGENTINE GRAND PRIX

POS	TEAM NAME	MANAGER NAME	POINTS
1	Shaggy Racing	S Hide	2901
2	Turbo Wilko	P Wilkinson	2881
3	Macher Bros 4	M Elem	2852
4	Let's Burn Rubber	D McCauley	2813
4	Hanno Hakkipen 1	L Skidmore	2813
4	Blue Eagles	P Adamson	2813
4	*Archi-Sparki*	R Bullen	2813
8	Team Thomas	R Finn	2798
9	Full On F1	P Fears	2797
10	Team 16	A Malakis	2786
11	Sanjay	P Dear	2778
11	Alphaomega	J Goldsmith	2778
13	Team 4	A Malakis	2774
13	Team 19	A Malakis	2774
15	Winning Formula	M Bishop	2773
15	Team Coffee Plus	S Parfitt	2773
15	Seagull	R Horwell	2773
15	New Street Racers	R Smith	2773
15	Magic 2	V Clark	2773
15	JT Racing	S Ridyard	2773
15	Head Banger	R Head	2773
15	Filter Trip	T Hudson	2773
15	Crash Testers	P Wildsmith	2773
15	*Clark 1*	V Clark	2773
15	CCM	C Rennard	2773

CHANGING TIMES

Favourite plays down speculation over world record

Pinto hopes to make first class return

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

LAST year, after winning the Flora London Marathon in a course record time, Antonio Pinto boarded a courtesy bus to the race banquet. The driver lost his way, taking three times longer than necessary to complete the journey. Pinto sat without complaint, a man who knew the value of patience.

Pinto had learnt the hard way. In the 1995 London Marathon, the diminutive Portuguese had led by a minute at 21 miles, but suffered the consequences of an adventurous spirit. As his legs tired, he was caught and finished third.

On his next appearance, in 1997, Pinto was a distant fifth at 25 miles, out of contention, it seemed. How quickly the picture changed. His countrymen may have lacked the killer finish at Wembley on Wednesday but Pinto's was in the Shearer class — measured to perfection. It speaks volumes for Pinto that he is a 6-4 favourite with William Hill in a year when the field is as strong as ever. He described it yesterday as "phenomenal", the word used by Tim Hutchings, the assistant race director, to sum up Pinto's recent form.

Last month, Pinto set a half-marathon world record and a personal best 10,000 metres of 27min 15.76sec. This, according to Hutchings, is "the fastest 10,000 metres by someone coming up to a marathon". Almost but not quite. Pinto was beaten narrowly by Fabian Roncero, of Spain, who won the Rotterdam Marathon last Sunday.

Nevertheless, that in itself is a pointer to Pinto being in world record shape. Roncero was on schedule for the world record of 2:06.50, held by Belayneh Dinsamo, of Ethiopia, until he suffered cramp and had to stop. Still he ended up with 2:07.26, 29 seconds faster than Pinto's London record. Pinto will not be led into talk of a world record.

"Rotterdam is flatter and less windy," Pinto said. "London is not ideal." Not ideal, but not prohibitive, though it posed the question: why did he pick London rather than Rotterdam. "Financial reasons," Luis Felipe Posso, his manager, confessed. Bigger appearance fee, better prize-money.

Anyway, can we really count Dinsamo's mark? Asked why it had lasted ten years, Pinto said: "The courses for marathons are more controlled now. Then, they were not so precise, not so completely faithful to the marathon distance. I am not saying the [Rotterdam] distance is not correct. I am saying it is a possibility. In London, it is almost impossible to break the world record, but it is possible to improve the time of the race."

After his course record last year, 55 seconds slower than the world record, Pinto was asked whether any small changes could be made to make the course quicker. Before he could answer, David Bedford, the race director, said: "Have it measured by the Rotterdam people."

The comments reported here by Pinto, with regard to Rotterdam, were made when he was interviewed in Porto by a group of British journalists in January. At the same interview, the subject of drugs came up and his comments on Spanish athletes have been misrepresented in reports elsewhere this week.

He was reported on Tuesday to have been suspicous of the methods of Abel Anton, the world champion who is about to make his London debut, because he had progressed quickly [though he is 35]. Anton responded: "I was very upset when I heard about these allegations." He need not have been.

Pinto's interpreter had said, at first, that the athlete was "suspicious of the development of Spaniards since the 1992 Olympics, that he cannot see any reason for their fast development." However, realising possible misinterpretation, she added: "He is not saying he is suspicious but he wondered why they have improved. He does not want to accuse them of taking EPO because others may have the same suspicions about him."

Aged 32, Pinto is highly experienced. There is nothing green about him, except his wine. Born in Amarante, 30 miles outside Porto, Pinto owns a vineyard there — "the only place in the world where green wine is made."

One does not need long in Pinto's company to discover how fond he is of wine. Was it true, Hutchings asked, that he drank four bottles a week? "Sometimes more," Pinto replied, with an impish smile. "I had two bottles to celebrate my 10,000 metres."

It is said, though it is probably apocryphal, that Carlos Lopes, a countryman of Pinto's, set the world record in Rotterdam in 1985 after a glass of rosé that morning. Might Pinto pour one first thing on Sunday?

"It would not be a problem if the race was in the afternoon," he said. "I could have wine with lunch, but I cannot do that here because the race is in the morning."

Never mind, there will be plenty at the banquet on Sunday and Pinto may well be there as champion again, provided the bus driver can find the way.

TONY WHITE



Pinto, who owns a vineyard in Portugal, has been in magnificent form this year

Pinto crosses the line to win in London last year

ONLY IN THE TIMES NEXT WEEK

Full coverage of the London Marathon and a complete listing of all the runners and their official finishing times

TELEVISION CHOICE

In harmony with nature

My Wonderful Life
ITV, 8.00pm

In the first series of Simon Nye's sitcom Donna (Emma Wray) functioned as a single woman, estranged from her husband and looking for a new man but apparently destined to be disappointed. Now Nye has changed the emphasis and given Donna a different role. She has settled on a new partner, the boring hospital doctor (Hamish Clark), but she cannot sell him to her daughters who still adore their Dad, Phil (Philip Glenister). There is a hint that the Donna and husband Phil will get back together, but meanwhile Phil has acquired a new girlfriend (Nicola Stephenson), whose disconcerting effect on Donna fuels tonight's episode. It is unusual for a comedy to change direction (most sitcoms continue with the same situation for years) but there is no sign of the invention flagging and Wray's gutsy performance remains a delight.

Wild About the Garden
Channel 4, 8.00pm

In the second of her programmes about creating gardens in harmony with nature, Carol Klein draws her inspiration from woodlands. Her theme is that while trees plunge large areas into shade, many fine specimens can lighten this gloom. To the obvious ones, such as wood anenomes, bluebells and primroses, she adds other, no less attractive, varieties with long Latin names. Klein handles her subject with a three-pronged approach. She visits a wood in the company of an ecologist to discover what flowers flourish there, goes to a woodland garden in Worcestershire to see theory transformed into practice, and instructs a couple on how to transform a patch of woodland in their garden. There is also advice on coppicing, as a way of rejuvenating flora on an overcrowded woodland floor.

Fame and Fortune With Tippi Hedren
Channel 5, 8.00pm

Tippi Hedren's fame was short-lived, lasting little longer than a couple of films for her Svengali-figure, Alfred Hitchcock, who discovered her in a television commercial. Her fortune is not disclosed, though it is enough to maintain the passion of her



Michael Buerk (BBC1, 9.30pm)

life, a 180-acre animal reserve north of Los Angeles. Most of the animals have been rescued from illegal trade or from zoos which have closed. Saving them, she says, has probably saved her as well. She is thinking of Hitchcock's determination to possess her, from which she rebelled to the detriment of her film career (though she has started a comeback). Saving animals has also compensated for three failed marriages, one of which produced a current Hollywood star, Melanie Griffith. We meet Hedren at home and on the set of her new film.

999
BBC1, 9.30pm

The heroes of this latest selection of near-death incidents are separated by 60 years. Steve Taylor was trapped under his Volvo when the vehicle fell off a jack. Built to withstand ferocious Swedish winters, the Volvo is not lightest of cars but Taylor's neighbour, Ron Sharpe, was able to lift it off him. Sharpe, astonishingly, is 77 and the doctors say he had a rush of super-adrenalin. Ross Davies, on the other hand, is only 17. His rescue also involved a car but this one had crashed into a river, trapping the passenger. Ross dived into the water several times to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. We also hear how a yachtsman risked his life and gave up his chance of winning a race to save a fellow competitor, and we check on the progress of the rookie firefighters in the West Midlands. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

Where Three Roads Meet
Radio 4, 9.00pm

There are moments when this play by Don Taylor sounds like a documentary, perhaps because we have become so used to Anglican vicars doubting their faith. Peter (Michael Harbour) is the vicar here and the nature of his crisis is that he continues to believe in Christ as historical fact but no longer believes the Christian story, with its supernatural God and risen Lord: "It wasn't sudden like the road to Damascus, more like ice cracking the mortar in a wall." Peter's wife Dorothy (Karen Archer) is not much impressed by her husband's plan to start telling the truth: "You can't do that, you can't stand up in the pulpit and tell them the whole thing is a pack of lies." But this is exactly what Peter plans to do.

Midday
Radio 5 Live, midday

The departure of Eddie Mair to Radio 4 left 5 Live with a problem in this key two-hour slot but Jane Garvey has solved it: she is a very good presenter who already sounds at home with the show. A change of presenter always freshens up a programme but *Midday* keeps in trim by other means, in particular by not letting items run too long. Starting today and running all next week, the programme will have a two-minute slot, between 12.30 and 12.45, presented by someone journalists always speak well of: Stan Burridge sells the *Evening Standard* outside Oxford Circus Tube station. Stan, aged 32, is homeless and in these monologues he will be describing various aspects of how that affects his everyday life. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

6.30am Chris Moyles 12.00 Jo Whiley, includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Dave Pearce 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00am Fabio and Grooverider 4.00 Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. Introduced by Brian Kay live from Chester Cathedral 9.15 Scoop (3/6) 9.30 Listen to the Band. The European Youth Festival of Brass, from Livingstone, Scotland 10.00 David Jacobs 10.30 The Arts Programme 12.05am Charles Nove 4.00 Jackie Bird

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday. See Choice 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julian Worricker 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Alan Green's Sportstalk 8.30 Friday Sport. Introduced by David Oates. Including Port Vale v Middlesbrough in the First Division, Leeds v Salford in the rugby SuperLeague, and news from the World Snooker Championship in Sheffield 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Chris Evans 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pm Paul Coyte 4.00 Robin Banks 7.00 Johnny Boy's Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00am Howard Pearce

TALK RADIO

MW: 1053, 1089 kHz
6.30am Kirsty Young with Bill Overton 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Sportszone 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00am Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

7.00am News 7.15 Insight 7.30 Pick of the World 8.00 News 8.15 Off the Shelf 8.30 Music Review 9.00 News; (648 only) News in German 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Westway 9.30 John Peel 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 The Learning World 10.30 On the Brink 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Assignment 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Focus on Faith 1.00 News; (648 only) News in German 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 History Today 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Multitrack: Alternative 4.00 News 4.05 Football Extra 4.15 Beyond the Millennium 4.30 Science in Action; (648 only) News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 6.00 News 6.15 Insight 6.30 The New Europe; News in German (648 only) 6.45 Sports Roundup 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Focus on Faith 8.00 News 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 Multitrack: Alternative 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Insight 11.45 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05am Outlook 12.30 Multitrack Alternative 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weeklies 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Beyond the Millennium 2.45 Short Story 3.00 Newsday 3.30 People and Politics 4.00 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sports Roundup 4.30 Insight 4.45 Off the Shelf

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Breakfast with Bailey. Nick Bailey presents music for the morning 8.00 Henry Kelly. Michael Barry prepares Old English custard tart. Plus, High Flyer and Record of the Week 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones plays listeners' favourite music 2.00pm Concerto. Gershwin (Rhapsody in Blue) 3.00 Michael Mappin. News, travel and sports updates. Plus Afternoon Romance and Continuous Classics 6.30 Newsnight with John Brunning 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Includes Dvořák (Cello Concerto in B minor); William Lloyd Webber (Sonatina for Viola and Piano; So lovely the Rose); Andrew Lloyd Webber (Requiem) 11.00 Mann at Night 2.00am Concerto (r)

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air**, with Petroc Trelawny. Includes a review of Harvey Goldsmith's lavish production of Verdi's *Aida* at Earl's Court in London
9.00 **Masterworks**, with Peter Hobday. Includes Ravel (Violin Sonata in G); Handel (Sing unto God); Bach (Flute Sonata in E minor, BWV1034); Saint-Saëns (Piano Concerto No 2 in G minor); Ravel (Tzigane)
10.30 **Artist of the Week: Angela Gheorghiu**
11.00 **Sound Stories: Musical Dynasties.** Richard Baker explores the Strauss family
12.00 **Composer of the Week: Scriabin**
1.00pm **The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.** A concert given last Sunday at Belfast's Waterfront Hall by Romain Guyot, clarinet, and Philippe Cassard, piano. Martinu (Clarinet Sonata); Schubert, arr Guyot (Arpeggione Sonata, D821); Schumann (Fantasiestucke, Op 73); Poulenc (Clarinet Sonata)
2.00 **The BBC Archive: Bolet plays Liszt.** Paul Guinery presents a selection of recordings by the Cuban-born American pianist Jorge Bolet
4.00 **Music Restored.** David Watkin, cello and Howard Moody, fortepiano. Beethoven (Variations on See the Conqu'ring Hero Comes, WoO 45); Anton Kraft (Divertimento); Jean-Louis Duport (Theme and Variations, Duo concertante); Beethoven (Variations on Mozart's 'Ein Madchen oder Weibchen, Op 66) (r)
4.45 **Music Machine**, with Tommy Pearson
5.00 **In Tune**, with Humphrey Carpenter. Includes Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini)
7.30 **Performance on 3: BBC National Orchestra of Wales 70th Birthday Concert.** Live from St David's Hall, Cardiff, a gala concert in the presence of the Prince of Wales. Mark Wigglesworth, the music director, Tadaaki Otaka, conductor laureate, and the former associate conductor Grant Llewellyn conduct a programme of party pieces 8.30 BBC NOW at 70 with Geraint Lewis 8.50 Concert, part two
10.00 **Postscript: Private View** (5/5)
10.15 **Hear and Now.** Verity Sharp reports from the ISCM New Music 98 event in Manchester and introduces a concert given by the ensemble, Psappha. Karen Tanaka (Echo Canyon); Gyorgy Ligeti (Horn Trio); Sue-Ya Wang (Profits d'Outremer); Arturo Gervasoni (Canto de ascension y recuerdo)
11.30 **The Hidden Factor**, with Ian Carr (2/6) (r)
12.00 **Composer of the Week: Weber** (r)
1.00am **Through the Night**, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

6.00am **Today**, with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie. Includes 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day
8.35 **(LW) Yesterday in Parliament**
9.00 **Desert Island Discs.** Sue Lawley's castaway is the abstract artist Sir Terry Frost (r)
9.45 **(FM) Serial: My Affair with Christianity.** Rabbi Lionel Blue concludes his readings from his spiritual autobiography (5/5)
9.45 **(LW) News; An Act of Worship**
10.00 **News; Woman's Hour.** Jenni Murray talks to the Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker
11.00 **News; Ballet Dancers Never Die**, with Nicola Barranger (2/2)
11.30 **Richard Barton: General Practitioner!** by Lol Mason. With Robert Bathurst, Moray Watson and Julian Dutton, Sally Phillips and Iain Cuthbertson
12.00 **(FM) News; You and Yours 12.57** Weather
12.00 **(LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast**
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.30 **Quote — Unquote.** Nigel Rees is joined by Sian Lloyd, Charles Osborne, Lord Quinton and Billie Whitelaw. Reader Patricia Hughes
2.00 **News; The Archers** (r)
2.15 **Afternoon Play: Desert Island Desserts,** by Alexandra Cadell. A comedy about two interviewees from *Desert Island Discs* who are marooned on an island. With Nicholas Le Provost, Eddie Marsan and Sue Lawley
3.00 **News; Wired for a Week.** Daire Brehan presents an interactive series providing technical solutions to everyday problems
3.30 **Out with the Dog: Martin Manhattan.** Martin McKinnon attempts to walk his 22 dogs in Central Park before nightfall (5/5)
3.45 **Feedback.** Chris Dunkley airs listeners' comments on BBC policy and programming
4.00 **News; Open Book**, with Humphrey Carpenter (r)
4.30 **The Message.** Alex Brodie and guests engage in a debate about how current media trends affect our lives
5.00 **PM**, with Chris Lowe and Clare English 5.54 **(LW)** Shipping Forecast 5.57 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News 6.30 News Quiz.** Simon Hoggart quizzes the *Times* columnist Alan Coren, Francis Wheen and other guests on the week's events
7.00 **News; The Archers 7.15 Front Row.** Mark Lawson looks at the history of Jerome Kern's *Show Boat*, as Hal Prince's new production of the musical comes to Britain
7.45 **Postcards: Spring Tide** (5/5) (r)
8.00 **News; Any Questions?** Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in in Boston, Lincolnshire, by panellists including Andrew MacKay, MP, and the newspaper editor Charles Moore
8.45 **Letter from America**, by Alistair Cooke
9.00 **News; The Friday Play: Where Three Roads Meet.** Written and directed by Don Taylor. With Michael N. Harbour, Karen Archer and Peter Jeffrey, Robin Sebastian and Frances Jeater. See Choice
10.00 **The World Tonight**, with Robin Lustig
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept**, by Elizabeth Smart, abridged and produced by Joanna Toye. Read by Buffy Davis (5/5)
11.00 **Late Night on 4: Late Tackle.** Martin Bashir hosts the sports discussion programme
11.30 **(LW) Today in Parliament**
11.30 **(FM) Sport in Books: A Good Walk Spoiled.** Chris Sykes discusses the literature of golf, with Malcolm Hamer, Hilary Spurling, Donald Steel and John Updike
12.00 **News 12.30am The Late Book: Tales from Ovid.** Ted Hughes reads from his award-winning reworking of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* (5/10)
12.48 **Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Gibbons given four-match ban for abusive language

By Christopher Irvine

ANTHONY GIBBONS, the first player sent off in the British game for alleged racial abuse, was found guilty of "misconduct" yesterday by the Rugby Football League (RFL) disciplinary committee at an hour-long hearing and banned for four matches.

Gibbons, 22, who joined Bramley from Leeds Rhinos last year, was dismissed for what Nick Oddy, the referee, described as "verbal racial abuse" during a second division match away to Doncaster 11 days ago. Gibbons said afterwards that there was pushing and pulling, but the suggestion that he had made a racial taunt was "rubbish".

A statement by the RFL said: "The committee, after hearing all the evidence, was satisfied that the player was not a racist, and, while he admitted using abusive language to his opponent, it was accepted that it was in the heat of the moment. The committee was made aware that the player has offered a full apology to his opponent."

The committee took into account what was described as his good disciplinary record, the acceptance of his responsibility and testimonies from schools with a high proportion of pupils from ethnic minorities where he has coached. At the same time, his club was made aware of its duty under a 13-point action plan published by the RFL last year to eradicate racism from the game at all levels.

Next week, the RFL will formally adopt an equal opportunities policy drawn up with the help of the Commission for Racial Equality — the first such policy by a sport in Britain — and launch coaching clinics to encourage more youngsters from ethnic minorities into the game.

David Lloyd, the Hull Sharks chairman and Great Britain Davis Cup tennis captain, has told club officials to inquire about signing Scott Gibbs and Scott Quinnell from rugby union, although the chances of Swansea or Richmond releasing either player back to rugby league immediately are remote.

Salford Reds have Scott Naylor back at centre and Martin Crompton at scrum half following injury for the JJB Super League match away to Leeds tonight, but are delaying the debut of Paul Highton, the former Halifax and Great Britain Under-21 forward, who was signed yesterday after he was granted free agent status by an RFL tribunal.

Provided they maintain a 21-year winning streak in the league at home against Salford, Leeds will move two points ahead of Wigan Warriors, the only other unbeaten Super League side. Marcus St Hilaire is called up on the wing and Francis Cummins switches to centre for Richie Blackmore, one of three British-based players in the New Zealand side to face Australia in Auckland today, along with Henry Paul and Robbie Paul.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 47

PEPPERONI

(b) Beef and pork sausage seasoned with pepper. An adaptation of the Italian *peperone* chilli. "The only action required is a wink, and wham! out comes his pepperoni"

OROBUS

(c) A herb of the genus Orobus, belonging to the family Leguminosae, and now usually included in the genus *Lathyrus*. Commonly called bitter-vetch. "The name Orobus is useful, for it expresses a race of plants distinct from the climbers to which the name Lathyrus was formerly exclusively applied. These Orobi supply some of the most beautiful of spring and early summer flowers."

SALOTTO

(c) A drawing-room, reception room or lounge. The Italian word. "Her prototype can always be found in the cheerles salotto of a certain kind of Florentine pension."

ROMAJI

(c) A system of Romanised spelling for the Japanese language. From the Japanese (in Romaji) *roma* = Roman + *ji* = letter(s). "The name of the mountain which used to be written Fuji in the old Rōmaji system is now written Huzi."

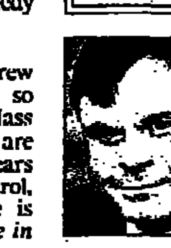
SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. . . . Rxh2!: 2. Nxh2 Qxg3+; 3. Kg1 Qxh2+; 4. Kf2 Bg3+; 5. Kf3 Qh5+; 6. Kxg3 Qxe2 and Black will win easily.

مكبرا من الاصل

In comedy, some mothers don't 'ave 'em

REVIEW



Paul Hoggart

Whatever else they suffer from, British sitcoms have never been burdened with intrusive quality control systems. You never know if a new one will be an inspired, original gem or so banal and tepid that it will leave you wondering how it ever got commissioned in the first place. It is unusual for a show to have both effects at once, but that is the case with Geoffrey Atherden's **Keeping Mum** (BBC1).

The programme has been criticised for making fun of Alzheimer's. This seems harsh since the main character, Peggy, doesn't suffer from that condition. What she does suffer from is selective memory loss, selective deafness and an advanced case of emotional manipulation.

There is a tradition of cranky old codgers, from Albert Steptoe to Victor Meldrew, but Stephanie Cole has raised this to a new level of eccentricity. Peggy has gone into a second childhood in which she has relearnt all the toddler's mercurial devices for moral blackmail. She is a monster of egocentricity, a biscuit-tin King Lear who will not rest until she has manoeuvred her son into letting her get her way.

Last night she was determined to intrude on his poker game with his mates, hid the cards, forgot where they were and alternated wheedling ingratiation with insulting his guests. It was a virtuoso display in which Cole deployed enough odd little facial expressions to keep a drama class busy for a week. Her performance had a mad internal logic, like an Alan Bennett *Talking Heads* monologue.

Many of her mannerisms reminded me of Miranda Richardson's wonderful Queen Elizabeth I in *Blackadder II*, an unsettling blend of simpering babyishness and steely menace. But she also uses a thicko "country" manner, which sounds like Nursey from the same show. It is an intriguing feat to incorporate two contrasting characters from another comedy in one performance.

Unlike his mother, Andrew (Martin Ball) sounds so educated and middle-class that it is hard to imagine they are from the same family. He appears to be the parent-figure, in control, but it is her house and he is constantly baffled by her *Alice in Wonderland* notions of reality.

The trouble is that he is another of those tedious nice-chap-having-a-bit-of-a-trying-time characters who litter our television screens. As soon as the script veers away from Cole's bizarre tyranny, it lapses into bland, by-the-yard sitcom. "Oh, no! Now this is all I need!" Andrew wailed at one point, and I wondered if he meant his lines.

"Real" has become a portmanteau codeword these days, implying all sorts of hip, "Cool Britannia" virtues, and when I see it in a programme title it fills me with dread. I needn't have worried about **Real Gardens** (Channel 4), however, because it meant exactly what it said. These gardens were owned by ordinary members of the public from a wide social cross-section around the country.

They kept flashing up the date so that we would know that it had all been filmed last week, dull weather and all, and that the handy tips were completely topical. We went to the Brecon Beacons to *learn how to prune roses*. We failed to identify a pear tree variety with the couple in Wincanton. We did fun things with mushroom compost in Watford and stood around a bit in a very unappetising garden in Tottenham.

It was all rather relaxing, in a dull sort of way, a throwback to a gentler era when self-help programmes felt no pressure to be entertaining and people wore clothes *made from sheets of woven muesli*. There was no Anne McEvitt and, so far, not a trendy design feature or lurid colour in sight.

If in doubt, lay on a celebrity quiz. I'm not sure exactly what World Book Day was, who organised it or what it hoped to achieve, but BBC2 decided it was momentous enough to merit a humorous one-off panel game all of its own. So we settled down to **The Book Quiz**, half an hour of fun with two teams of comics and Gryff Rhys Jones as our "Quiz Inquisitor".

This format has become such a cliché, the participants so interchangeable, that each quiz feels like a rehash of every other quiz that has gone before. This was a bland *Have I Got Shooting Buzzcocks For You!*, with books and questions sufficiently middlebrow for most literate viewers to do as well as the panel.

Gryff Rhys Jones had a decent *script* (I particularly liked the joke about George Steinbeck's dog, which ate the manuscript of *Of Mice and Men*, being unable to finish *Moby Dick*). Stephen Fry, Phill Jupitus, David Baddiel, Morwenna Banks, Meera Syal and Miles Kington all managed at least one funny ad lib each. I missed *The Written World*, BBC2's other Book Day offering, which may have been brilliantly inspiring, but if this was the best we can manage as a celebration of world literature we might as well *pack up now*.

There was nothing bland, dull, confused or half-hearted about **Dispatches** (Channel 4). The second instalment of last week's chilling investigation of battered women was, if possible, worse than part one. What is it in our culture that lets the police and the judiciary classify attempted murder as a "common assault", worthy only of probation, community *service or a suspended sentence*, if the victim is the attacker's wife or girlfriend?

The violence was horrifying, the fear intolerable, the handling of the cases unforgivable. Even Sue Lees, an expert in this field, was staggered by the findings of the *Dispatches* survey. It is a national disgrace, but I fear the Government is too smug to get to the root of it.

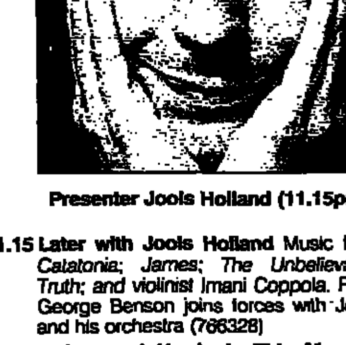
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (99521)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (92811)
9.00 Change That The American Shaker style (9607892)
9.25 Kilroy (T) (4075328)
10.03 World Book Day (6853863)
10.05 Style Challenge (7206095)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (5384298)
10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (9176415)
11.35 The General (4809076)
12.00 News (T) (2253095)
12.05pm The Entertainment Game Quiz (3545328)
12.35 Wipeout (1245340)
1.00 News (T) and weather (15958)
1.30 Regional News (T) (77630927)
1.40 The Weather Show (64294057)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (92660811)
2.10 Lion Country (63301347)
2.35 Ironside (r) (3281231)
3.30 Playdays (1033434) **3.50** The Littlest Pet Shop (9249618) **4.00** Bodger and Badger (7097618) **4.15** Bailey Kipper's POV (2981182) **4.35** Clarissa Explains It All (T) (8301892) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5514540) **5.10** Blue Peter. Manchester popsters Cleopatra; World Book Day celebrations in London's Globe Theatre (T) (1324601)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (527182)
6.00 News (T) and weather (415)
6.30 Regional News (T) (845)
7.00 Weekend Watchdog with Anne Robinson Consumer investigations (T) (6347)
7.30 Top of the Pops with music from the Mighty Mighty Bosstones; Savage Garden; Ultra Naté; Busta Rhymes and Run DMC vs Jason Nevins (T) (279)
8.00 Confessions A prankster owns up, 50 years after he duped his workmates (T) (5095)
8.30 A Question of Sport John Parrott and Ally McCoist join Sue Barker (T) (4502)
9.00 News (T) and weather (4724)
9.30 [CHOICE] **999** A 77-year-old saves a neighbour from being crushed beneath a car; yachtsman Pete Goss helps a fellow competitor stranded in a storm (853279) **WALES: 9.30** Ball at the Hall (92960) **10.00** 999 (533163) **10.50** The Mrs Merton Show (211724) **11.25** Auntie's Sporting Bloomers (445502) **11.45** Snooker: World Championship (767057) **12.45am** FILM: The Crucifer of Blood (417274) **2.25** News (2104800) **2.30** BBC News 24
10.20 The Mrs Merton Show Jo Brand, Lorraine Kelly and Chris Eubank (r) (919569)
10.55 Auntie's Sporting Bloomers Introduced by Terry Wogan (389873)
11.15 Snooker: World Championship Dougie Donnelly with second-round action from the Crucible (768786)
12.15am The Crucifer of Blood (1991) [FILM] Charlton Heston plays Sherlock Holmes in this mystery inspired by Conan Doyle's *The Sign of Four*. Directed by Fraser C. Heston (278354)
1.55 Weather (4941212)
2.00 BBC News 24

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BBC2

6.10am Women, Children and Work (4222095) **7.00** Teletubbies (r) (2660231) **7.25** The Kwicky Koala Show (r) (2689366) **7.50** 50/50 (r) (T) (1730539) **8.15** Yogi's Treasure Hunt (r) (6398386) **8.35** Pingu (r) (5700732) **8.45** The Record (4205076)
9.10 Go for It! — Life Skills (5931076) **9.30** Watch (3338908) **9.45** Come Outside (3326163) **10.00** Teletubbies (65279) **10.30** Look and Read (8328347) **10.50** Mad About Music (8331811) **11.10** Landmarks (T) (5037366)
11.30 Sportsbank: Soccer New series featuring John Salako demonstrating football skills (3231)
12.00 The Animated Shakespeare: *Julius Caesar* (84453)
12.30pm Working Lunch (10366) **1.00** Funnybones (r) (61018095) **1.05** Bananaman (r) (61017366)
1.10 Snooker: World Championship David Vine and Dougie Donnelly introduce second-round action, where all matches are now over 25 frames (73902892)
6.00 The Simpsons Bart and Lisa take a career aptitude test (T) (927569)
6.20 Star Trek Kirk, Spock and McCoy are lured into a trap (r) (T) (847415)
7.10 Travels with Pevsner Patrick Wright follows in the footsteps of Niklaus Pevsner as he explores Dorset (r) (T) (614569)
8.00 Wilderness Walks: Cairngorms Cameron McNeish walks to Britain's wildest places. Tonight he is joined by the Olympic gold medallist Chris Brasher to traverse the Cairngorm mountain range (r) (T) (3637)
8.30 Gardeners' World Trees for small gardens; plants which thrive in the shade; plans for summer gardens (T) (2144)
9.00 Snooker: World Championship More live action from the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield (8279)
10.00 Have I Got News for You *Topical quiz*, hosted by Angus Deayton, with team captains Paul Merton and Ian Hislop (T) (85182)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (712273)

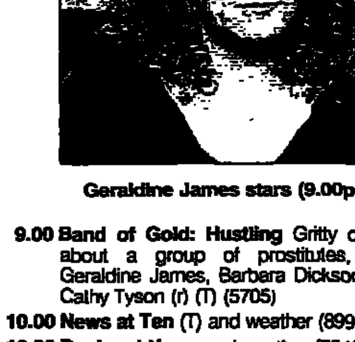


Presenter Jools Holland (11.15pm)

11.15 Later with Jools Holland Music from *Catatonia; James; The Unbelievable Truth; and violinist* Imani Coppola. Plus: George Benson joins forces with Jools and his orchestra (766328)
12.15am Lee and Herring's This Morning with Richard Not Judy (r) (2014800)
12.50 The Cool and the Crazy (1994) with [FILM] Jennifer Blanc and Alicia Silverstone. Drama set in the 1950s, about a bored young mother who embarks on an affair. Directed by Ralph Bakshi (7229380)
2.10 Space: Above and Beyond (r) (T) (8665187)
2.55 Weather (7996941)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (1182569)
9.25 This Morning (T) (9977453)
9.30 Vanessa: Angry Mothers Confront Their Mothers (T) (4472809)
10.10 This Morning (T) (71820705)
12.15pm Regional News (6443328)
12.30 News (T) and weather (48732)
1.00 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (97366) **1.30** Home and Away (T) (98273) **2.00** The Jerry Springer Show (T) (2644873)
2.45 WALES: Get Gardening (727144)
2.45 Garden Calendar (T) (727144)
3.15 News (T) (2984328)
3.20 Regional News (T) (2914569)
3.25 Rosie and Jim (r) (2997892) **3.35** Cartoon Time (r) (6262434) **3.45** Ozzie the Owl (r) (9237873) **3.55** Magic with Everything (6266250) **4.10** Gogglewatch (T) (2968231) **4.35** Crazy Cottage (T) (8396960) **5.00** Gogglewatch (T) (5516908)
5.10 A Country Practice (1490521)
5.40 News (T) and weather (419724)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (829453)
6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (553237)
6.25 HTV Weather (437521)
6.30 The West Tonight (163)
7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right (T) (1415)
7.30 Coronation Street Jim is dealt a sickening blow. Nick plays a dangerous game (T) (347)
8.00 [CHOICE] **My Wonderful Life: On the Shelf** Roger begins to spend more time at Donna's (T) (2273)
8.30 The Bill: Sale or Return Boulton and Carver continue their investigation into illegal immigration (2/2) (T) (9298)



Geraldine James stars (9.00pm)

9.00 Band of Gold: Hustling Gritty drama about a group of prostitutes, with Geraldine James, Barbara Dickson and Cathy Tyson (r) (T) (5705)
10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (89908)
10.30 Regional News and weather (754637)
10.40 Dharma and Greg The students defect from Dharma's yoga class (T) (647255)
11.10 Friday Night Fever (128298)
11.40 Renegade: Honor Bound Reno investigates the disappearance of a retired Marine sergeant's daughter. With Lorenzo Lamas (847298)
12.40am Pop Down the Pub (4679038)
1.10 War of the Worlds (r) (2158019)
2.05 Not Fade Away (r) (5564941)
3.00 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (r) (85903090)
3.25 Murder, She Wrote (8553748)
4.15 Coach (44945564)
4.40 ITV Nightscreen (50965293)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (47496)
5.30 News (73748)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
1.30pm The Jerry Springer Show (5139908)
2.45-3.15 Surprise Gardeners (727144)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1490521)
6.25-7.00 Central News (553237)
10.40 Central Weekend Live (72362347)
12.15am God's Gift (310835)
1.15 Pop Down the Pub *(2125090)*
1.50 Robocop (9705038)
2.40 World Football (2291380)
3.10 Planet Mirth (85927670)
3.35 Vanessa (9127336)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.15pm Westcountry News (6443328)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (5139908)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1490521)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (15811)
10.30 Westcountry News (745989)
10.45 Dharma and Greg (905095)
11.15 Friday Night Fever (902908)
11.45 Renegade (198434)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
1.00pm-1.30 Shortland Street (97366)
2.45-3.15 Put It to the Test (727144)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1490521)
6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (15811)
11.40 Charlie Grace (847298)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
2.45pm-3.15 Great Little Gardens (727144)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (1490521)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (553237)

S4C

Starts: **7.00am The Big Breakfast** (85521)
9.00 FILM: A Song is Born (96920250)
11.05 The Baptism (5270347)
11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (8927)
12.00 Ricki Lake (79521)
12.30pm Sesame Street (48714)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (63890231)
1.15 Tomos Y Tanc (63895786)
1.30 The Three Stooges (92665366)
1.55 Racing from Sandown Park (80556724)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (796)
4.30 Countdown (960)
5.00 5 Pump (2521)
5.30 I Dream of Jeannie (540)
6.00 Newyddion 6 (274989)
6.10 Heno (841231)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (730415)
7.25 Y Clwb Rygbi (942989)
8.00 Ma' Ifan 'Ma (8705)
8.30 Newyddion (7340)
9.00 Celebrity Countdown *(7434)*
9.30 Friends *(25298)*
10.00 Brookside (982415)
10.35 Father Ted (707816)
11.05 TFI Friday (200618)
12.05am Snwcer(2116212)
12.40 Planet Football (9790699)
1.40 Jo Whiley (7375274)
2.25 King of the Hill (9678309)
2.55 Pond Life (4012274)
3.10 FILM: The Dream Machine (858019)
4.45 Diwedd *(4547800)*

CHANNEL 4

7.00am The Big Breakfast (85521)
9.00 A Song Is Born (1948) Musical comedy [FILM] with Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo and Hugh Herbert. Directed by Howard Hawks (T) (96920250)
11.05 The Baptism (5270347) **11.30** Here's One I Made Earlier. Salt cod brandade; lamb d'azure (r) (T) (8927) **12.00** Sesame Street (79521) **12.30pm** I Dream of Jeannie (48714) **1.00** Late Lunch (95908) **1.30** The Three Stooges (92665366)
1.55 Racing from Sandown Park Coverage of the **2.05**, **2.35**, **3.10** and **3.40** races (80556724)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (796) **4.30** Countdown (T) (8395231) **4.55** Ricki Lake: Ricki's Out-of-Control Teens (T) (9660188) **5.30** Bewitched (T) (540)



Host Chris Evans (6.00pm)

6.00 TFI Friday Chat and music with Chris Evans and the team (13453)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (327521)
7.55 The Slot (804724)
8.00 [CHOICE] **Wild About the Garden:** (2/6) Carol Klein talks to Nigel Phillips, an ecologist and Kim Hurst, a gardener, about the advantages of woodland gardens (T) (8705)
8.30 Brookside Sinbad faces prosecution for blowing up the parade. Peter puts Lindsay on the spot; and Melanie is horrified at the thought of Ben being in a wheelchair (T) (7340)
9.00 Ellen: The Clip Show Patient Ellen volunteers to help at the hospital and finds herself caring for an English patient (T) (7434)
9.30 Father Ted A singing sensation visits Mrs Doyle and the parochial house is besieged by pensioners (T) (25298)
10.00 Frasier: Beware of Greeks *An old* family grudge resurfaces for Frasier when a cousin gets married (T) (70250)
10.30 King of the Hill: Bobby Sam Connie shows an interest in wrestling which causes a rift between Peggy and Bobby (T) (313521)
11.05 The Adam and Joe Show (r) (T) (127569)
11.35 TFI Friday (r) (311786)
12.40am Pond Life Dolly enters a children's competition in her bid to become a famous poet (r) (T) (8221403)
12.55 Jo Whiley (r) (9624019)
1.40 Planet Football (r) (T) (4225125)
2.35 The Dream Machine Comedy action-[FILM] *thriller about a Porsche with a body in the* trunk. With Evan Richards, Corey Haim and Brittney Lewis. Directed by Lyman Dayton (T) (3466895)
4.05 Stopover Forever (1964) Murder-[FILM] mystery about an air hostess who finds her life is in danger. With Ann Bell and Anthony Bate. Directed by Fredric Goode (r) (8640106)
5.00 The Take Out *(45038)*

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. **Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (2689298)
7.00 WideWorld (r) (T) (1348540) **7.30** Milkshake! (5997182) **7.35** Wimzie's House (8413250) **8.00** Havakazoo (8846873) **8.30** Dappledown Farm (r) (8845144) **9.00** Espresso (9566279) **10.00** Birds of the Snow (r) (T) (7767705) **10.30** Sunset Beach (T) (7261273) **11.10** Leeza (6672989)
12.00 5 News (T) (8849960) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (1753250) **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (1347811) **1.30** Sons and Daughters (1752521) **2.00** Burke's Law (7768434) **3.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (8430786)
3.30 Three Sailors and a Girl (1953) with [FILM] Jane Powell, Gordon MacRae, Gene Nelson and Sam Levene. Musical about sailors on shore leave. Directed by Roy Del Ruth (2492415)
5.20 Russell Grant's Postcards Tour of the British Isles (24826279)
5.30 Was It Good for You? A trip to Barbados (r) (6231540)
6.00 100 Per Cent (6238453)
6.30 Family Affairs Roy is back on drugs (T) (6229705)
7.00 5 News (T) (8455095)
7.30 Wildlife SOS Life at Wildlife Aid in Leatherhead (T) (6225989)



Animal lover Tippi Hedren (8.00pm)

8.00 [CHOICE] **Fame and Fortune** The life and style of Tippi Hedren, actress mother of Melanie Griffith (T) (8431415)
8.30 Was It Good for You? A trip to Dublin (8443250)
9.00 Dying to Belong (1995) with Hilary [FILM] Swank, Mark Paul Gosselaar and Sarah Chalke. Sinister drama about bizarre rituals in an American college. Directed by William A. Graham (62245347)
10.40 C-16 FBI *(2/2) The hunt for the* kidnapped boy continues (8584502)
11.40 Summer Lovers (1982) Sex-triangle [FILM] *drama with* Peter Gallagher, Daryl Hannah and Carole Cook. Directed by Randal Kleiser (5709786)
1.30am Morning Glory (1992) Thriller with [FILM] Christopher Reeve and Deborah Raffin. Directed by Steven H. Stern (5514670)
3.20 Dawn at Socorro (1954) Western with [FILM] Piper Laurie. Directed by George Sherman (58743106)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H *(2271309)*
5.30 100 Per Cent *(9514816)*

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For further listings see Saturday's *Vision***

SKY 1

7.00am Street Sharks (23705) **7.30** Games World (1920724) **7.45** The Simpsons (24811) **8.15** Oprah (9670163) **9.00** Hotel (60521) **10.00** Another World (31724) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (11960) **12.00** Married with Children (26453) **12.30pm** M*A*S*H (52366) **1.00** Geraldo (40521) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (88144) **3.00** Jenny Jones (43144) **4.00** Oprah (62279) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8960) **6.00** Walker's World (8057) **6.30** Married with Children (2637) **7.00** The Simpsons (6989) **7.30** Real TV (1521) **8.00** Highlander: The Series (81892) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (78328) **10.00** Poltergeist: The Legacy (71415) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (32453) **12.00** Tribeca (83212) **1.00am** Long Play (2368038)

SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888. Each film costs £2.99 per viewing

SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) **Shine (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) **William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet (1997)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) **Space Jam (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) **The Saint (1996)**

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Blue Bird (1976) (38146521) **7.40 Clue (1985)** (22036540) **9.20 Goldilocks and the Three Bears (1995)** (97911315) **11.00 Jane Eyre (1996)** (87873) **1.00pm Julia (1977)** (93076) **3.00 Taming of the Shrew (1967)** (87434) **5.00 Goldilocks and the Three Bears (1995)** (12057) **6.30 Jane Eyre (1996)** (47540) **9.00 Tin Cup (1996)** (84066873) **11.15 Happy Gilmore (1996)** (185811) **12.50am Married People, Single Sex II (1994)** (220057) **2.35 Screwball Hotel (1988)** (444670) **4.20 Clue (1985)** (997903)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00am Burning Secret (1988) (48521) **8.00 The Skateboard Kid II (1995)** (33386) **10.00 My Uncle: The Alien (1996)** (54724) **12.00 Prince of Foxes (1949)** (632892) **1.50pm The Skateboard Kid II (1995)** (90868298) **3.25 Red Tops (1986)** (3942778) **4.40 Mystery Science Theatre 3000: The Movie (1995)** (6046163) **6.00 What the Deaf Man Heard (1997)** (55576927) **8.00 Dead Man Walking (1995)** (85618) **10.00 Fargo (1995)** (277231) **11.40 Dr Jekyll and Ms Hyde (1995)** (486347) **1.15am Mystery Science Theatre 3000: The Movie (1995)** (2673106) **2.30 Family of Cops (1996)** (87835) ***4.00 Kazaam (1996)*** *(86803)*

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Strategic Air Command (1955) (4068540) **6.00 Major League (1989)** (3896124) **8.00 Smokey and the Bandit (1977)** (4341219) **10.00 The Great Escape (1963)** (92462569) **12.50am U2 — Rattle and Hum (1988)** (4899361) **2.30 The Pumpkin Eater (1964)** (3313564) **4.20 My Favourite Brunette (1947)** (72407019) **5.45** Close

TNT

9.00pm WCW Nitro (90584365) **11.00** ***Grand Prix (1966)*** *(13957076)* **2.30am The Biggest Bundle of Them All (1968)** (23247941) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (76811) **7.30** Wrestling (68618) **8.30** Sports Centre (98569) **9.00** Racing News (72521) **9.30** Aerobics (14095) **10.00** Spanish Football (94231) **12.00** Aerobics (69057) **12.30pm** Futbol Mundial (18811) **1.00** Live Golf: Open de Espana (7746095) **6.00** Inside the PGA Tour (9095) **6.30** Rebel Sports (6250) **6.00** Sports Centre (93502) **7.00** World Sports Special (9231) **7.30** Live Super League (402521) **10.00** Sports Centre (37095) **11.00** Hold the Back Page (52231) **12.00** Sports Centre (16564) **1.00am** Wrestling (65458) **3.00** Rebel Sports (39545) **3.30** Super League (356835)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (9676499) **7.30** Sports Centre (4426796) **8.00** Racing News (5890960) **8.30** Fish TV (1075186) **10.00** US Golf League Review (6036231) **10.00** US Golf: Greater Greensboro Classic (6056095) **12.00** Rugby Club (9448366) **1.30pm** Formula Three (6046618) **2.00** Volleyball (9153144) **3.30** NHL Powerweek (9225786) **4.30** Rugby Club (9439618) **6.00** Wild Sports (3632724) **6.30** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (3623076) **7.00** Live Football (4139960) **10.00** US Golf: Greater Greensboro Classic (3622637) **12.00** NHL Powerweek (4178749) **1.00am** End Zone (5475944) **2.00** Sports Centre (8682564) **3.00** Trans World Sport (2197816) **4.00** US Golf: Greater Greensboro (2937125)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Trans World Sport (83043144) **1.00pm** Ringside (83052892) **2.00** Football Scrapbook (36258960) **3.30** Spanish Football (52762434) ***5.30 Futbol Mundial*** (70586057) **6.00** American Football: End Zone (83049328) **7.00** Golf: Open de Espana (28395873) **10.00** Wrestling: Raw (26195714) **12.00** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Olympic Games (57786) **8.00** Figure Skating (22502) **10.00** Modern Pentathlon (86298) **11.00** Live Tennis (4418144) **6.00pm** Motorsports (28298) **7.00** Tractor Pulling (23892) **8.00** Offroad (32540) **9.00** Boxing (29076) **10.00** Ten-Pin Bowling (22163) **11.00** Extreme Sports (87927) **12.00** Wakeboarding (20372) **1.00am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Never the Twain (5049076) **7.35** Neighbours (4032182) **8.00** Crossroads (5905298) **8.25** EastEnders (5328705) **9.00** The Bill (4779106) **9.30** Howards' Way (6232521) **10.00** Shelley (9957637) **10.30** The Sullivans (4074958) **11.00** Casualty (3748569) **12.00** Crossroads (53901231) **12.25pm** Neighbours (53911618) **12.55** EastEnders (2377892) **1.30** Bless This House (7507618) **2.05** Keeping Up Appearances (5478569) **2.45** Dangerfield (8456144) **3.45** The Bill (2846366) **4.15** Juliet Bravo (30502057) **5.20** EastEnders (2072453) **5.55** Big Break (1964569) **6.30** The Bill (8293095) **7.00** Dad's Army (1462273) **7.40** Rising Damp (1464298) **8.20** May to December (4684163) **9.00** Spender (26913163) **10.05** The Comic Strip Presents: A Fistful of Traveller's Cheques (4218260) **10.55** The Jack Dee Show (6747618) **11.30** Alas Smith and Jones (1848908) **12.05am FILM: Eat the Rich (1987)** (52682038) **1.35** The Equalizer (1281835) **2.25** 100 Years of Horror (43218815) **2.55** Shopping (36574854)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box *(3581415)* **7.00** E! Extreme Close-Up (2115569) **7.30** Coronation St (2194076) **8.00** Bund Date (1133540) **8.00** Wish Me Luck (4112182) **10.00** The Saint (2183960) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (2103724) **12.00** Coronation St (1416386) **12.30pm** Families (7519434) **1.00** A Fine Romance (2107540) **1.30** Me and My Girl (7518705) **2.00** Wish Me Luck (8195908) **3.00** Jason King (1788502) **4.00** Hawaii Five-O (1707637) **5.00** The Saint (5986811) **6.00** Families (8487095) **6.30** Coronation St (8476347) **7.00** Doctor in Charge (5987540) **7.30** On the Buses (8457231) **8.00** Jason King (2868231) **9.00** Coronation St (1798521) **9.30** Wheeltappers and Shunters *Social Club* (7539298) *10.00 Fitz*: The US Cracker (2881182) **11.00** Granada Men and Motors (5027521)



Valerie Campbell, mother of Naomi, is on Carlton Food Network

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE)

5.00pm Blockbusters (87957989) **5.30** Hey Dad II (70591989) **6.00** Byker Grove (70591502) **6.30** A Country Practice (70505182) **7.00** London Bridge (67960453) **7.30** The Bounder (70501366) **8.00** Blue Heelers (90598569) **9.00** Love Hurts (90578705) **10.00** Life After Birth (71639453) **10.30** Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (71615873) **11.00** St Elsewhere (43826637) **12.00** Haggard (45552926) **12.30am** Tales of the Unexpected (96798813) **1.00** The Beiderbecke Affair (31013274) **2.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree **6.30** Jungle Cubs **7.00** Recess **7.30** Pepper Ann **8.00** Brand Spanking New Doug **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa **9.00** Aladdin: The Series **9.30** Quack Pack **10.00** Amazing Animals **10.30** Sesame Street **11.30** Winnie the Pooh **11.45** Alphabet Castle **12.00** Little Hippo **12.15pm** Animal Shelf **12.30** Rosie and Jim **12.45** The Toothbrush Family **12.50** Bear in the Big Blue House **1.20** Winnie the Pooh **1.35** Chip 'n' Dale **2.00** Goof Troop **2.30** Jungle Cubs **3.00** Timon and Pumbaa **3.30** Brand Spanking New Doug **4.00** Pepper Ann **4.30** Recess **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Student Bodies **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00 FILM: Tower of Terror** **8.30** The Wonder Years **9.00** Touched by an Angel **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Zeo **7.00** X Men **7.25** Casper **7.35** Spiderman **8.00** Goosebumps **8.25** Sam and Max **8.35** Big Bad Beetleborgs **9.00** Masked Rider **9.30** Grimm's Fairy Tales **10.00** Pinocchio **10.30** Peter Pan **11.00** Oliver Twist **11.30** Huckleberry Finn **12.00** Gulliver's Travels **12.30pm** Eek! Stravaganza **12.45** The Mouse and the Monster **12.55** Casper **1.05** Terrible Thunderlizards **1.20** Sam and Max **1.30** Extreme Heroes **2.00** Eagle Riders **2.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles **3.00** Skysurfer Strikeforce **3.30** Donkey Kong Country **4.00** The Incredible Hulk **4.50** Casper **5.00** Goosebumps **5.30** Eerie, Indiana **6.00** X Men **6.30** Spiderman **7.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from **6.00am to 9.00pm**, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula **6.30** Grimmy **7.00** Angry Beavers and Hey Arnold! **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Arthur **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear etc **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Blue's Clues **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Franklin **2.00** Little Bear Stories **2.30** CBBC **3.30** Jumanji **4.00** Pippi Longstocking **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Moesha **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

7.00am Batman **7.30** Earthworm Jim **8.00** California Dreams **8.30** Hang Time **9.00** Ready or Not **9.30** Heartbreak High **10.30** Echo Point **11.00** Batman **11.30** Earthworm Jim **12.00** Sweat **12.30pm** Heartbreak High **1.30** Echo Point **2.00** Hollyoaks **2.30** On the Make **2.45** It's in the Jeans **3.00** Sweat **3.30** California Dreams **4.30** Saved by the Bell **5.00** Hollyoaks **5.30** USA High **6.00** Hang Time **6.30** Blast **7.00** Saved by the Bell **7.30** USA High **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Crosswits **5.45** Family Fortunes **6.30** Sale of the Century **7.15** Winner Takes All **8.00** The Crystal Maze **9.15** Strike It Lucky **10.00** Endurance UK **11.00** Jools Holland's Name That Tune **11.45** Karaoke Challenge **12.30am** McKenna **1.30** The Fall Guy **2.30** Boogies Diner **3.00** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga **4.00** The Big Valley **5.00** Screenshop

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (4430873) **9.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (1973811) **9.30** Cops (6258569) **10.00** The Basement (6172927) **10.15** Bravo's Briefs (6160182) **10.30** Red Shoe Diaries (5329845) **11.00 FILM: Femme Fontaine: Killer Babe for the CIA (1995)** (7290415) **1.00am** Beverly Hills Bordello (2901922) **1.30 FILM: Buddhist Fist** (8309361) **3.30** Twisted (3220699) **4.00** Beverly Hills Bordello (3201564) **4.30** Red Shoe Diaries (2999187) **5.00** The A-Team (2269125)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Cosby (7873) **7.30** Roseanne (1569) **8.00** Grace Under Fire (6521) **8.30** Caroline in the City (2328) **9.00** Cybill (70827) **9.30** Ellen (29649) **10.00 FILM: Monty Python's Meaning of Life** (97989) **12.00** Nurses (58477) **12.30am** It's Garry Shandling's Show (10729) **1.00** Frasier (40651) **1.30** Cheers (85212) **2.00** Caroline in the City (28545) **2.30** Grace Under Fire (30380) **3.00** Roseanne (37187) **3.30** Cybill (21632) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Quantum Leap (6962237) **9.00** The Cape (6087881) **10.00 FILM: House of the Long Shadows (1983)** (2218892) **12.00** Sightings (6577748) **1.00am** The Six Million Dollar Man (4988748) **2.00** Friday the 13th (6326816) **3.00** Tales of the Unexpected (1289019) **3.30** Dark Shadows (4461564)

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting **9.30** Gardeners' Diary **10.00** Grassroots **10.30** New Yankee Workshop **11.00** Andy Little's Angling Adventure **11.30** Hometime **12.00** Home Savvy **12.30pm** This Old House **1.00** Yan Can Cook — The Best of Asia **1.30** Furniture to Go **2.00** Doing It Up **2.30** Antiques Challenge **3.00** The Diceman **3.30** Home Again **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt Fishing World (8290908) **4.30** Zoo Story (8289892) **5.00** First Flights (8055231) *5.30 Time Travellers (8270144)* **6.00** Wildlife SOS (8277057) **6.30** Adventures of the Quest (4243076) **7.30** Disaster (8280521) **8.00** Crocodile Hunter (4443347) **9.00** Forensic Detectives (4456811) **10.00** Extreme Machines (4466298) **11.00** Mysterious Universe (1958502) **11.30** Mysterious Universe (9944163) **12.00** First Flights (3728019) **12.30am** Disaster (1622309) **1.00** Forensic Detectives (4277372)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Really Wild Animals (9336892) **7.30** Gauchos (7064960) **8.00** The Shark Files: Shark Shooters (1113892) **9.00** Lord of the Animals (2564540) **9.30** Extreme Earth: Earthquake (2533057) **10.00** Gorillas (1103415) **11.00** Koalas in my Backyard (9083618) **12.00** Clan of the Crocodile (3323835) **12.30am** The Eagle and the Snake (8591125) **1.00** Close

TRAVEL (CABLE)

12.00 Great Splendours Of The World **1.00pm** A Golfer's Travels **1.30** Gatherings & Celebrations **2.00** On Tour **2.30** Out To Lunch With Brian Turner **3.00** Mekong **4.00** The Great Escape **4.30** Cities Of The World **5.00** A Golfer's Travels **5.30** Reel World **6.00** Gatherings & Celebrations **6.30** On Tour **7.00** The Alps **8.00** Stepping The World **8.30** Flavours Of France **9.00** Going Places **10.00** Out To Lunch **10.30** Floyd On Oz **11.00** The Alps **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century (3602873) **5.00** Modern Marvels (2465366) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (6055366) **7.00** Biography: Mary of Nazareth (2447569) **8.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)

9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** A Taste of England **10.30** What's Cooking? **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** Slice of Life **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** French Lunch **2.00** Surprise Chefs **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Surprise Chefs **3.30** Worrall Thompson Cooks **4.00** Ideal Home Cooks **4.30** Planet Nosh **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** Ready, Steady, Cook **9.35** Hart to Hart **10.30** The Young and the Restless **11.20** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **11.50** Jimmy's **12.20pm** Living Issues **12.50** Diet Show **1.25** Adrenalin Junkies **2.20** Living It Up! **3.20** Jerry Springer **4.10** Tempestt **5.00** The Heat Is On **5.30** Ready, Steady, Cook **6.10** Jerry Springer **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Rolonda **9.00 FILM: Every Woman's Dream** **11.00** Sex Life Down Under **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

6.30am Musalaiain **7.00** Jaagran **7.30** Aap Ki Adalat **8.00** News **8.30** Hi Zindagi Bye Zindagi **9.00** Tanhaiya **10.00** Red Card **11.00** Zaike Ka Safar **11.30** Daraar **12.00 FILM 3.00pm** Hasratein **4.00** Hum Paanch **4.30** It's My Choice **5.00** ZEE Zone **6.00** Banegi Apni Baat **6.30** Lehren **7.00** Chashme Baddoor **7.30** Vacum **8.00** News **8.30** Parampara **9.00 FILM 12.00** Close



CRICKET 48
Adams steers Sussex into calmer waters

SPORT

ATHLETICS 50
Pinto promises to provide vintage performance



World Cup prospects rise with rejuvenation of striker supreme

England find fresh hope with Shearer

BY OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

ON THE television screen behind the talking head that was Glenn Hoddle, the Brazilians were doing their thing. It was the airport advert, the one in which Denilson, Roberto Carlos and the rest dribble and juggle a path along moving walkways and flick the ball expertly through X-ray machines.

Then Ronaldo spoilt it all by hitting the post, and the England coach moved on to Alan Shearer. Once more, his captain had made the difference. Portugal had had no one to crown the intricate artistry of their midfield with a fitting finish at Wembley on Wednesday, England had had Shearer. One glancing header and one unstoppable volley later, Portugal were like a man o' war holed beneath the waterline and England had won 3-0 and were revelling in their centre forward's own brand of gunboat diplomacy.

Hoddle, of course, was at pains to point out that England were far from a one-man team, that they had qualified for the World Cup finals without Shearer and had won without him since. He talked again about the importance of the spine of his team — Seaman, Adams, Ince and Shearer — and how England had a real chance of success in France if they stayed healthy and free of suspension.

But, in the end, he succumbed and lavished deserved praise on the man whose return from serious injury has infused the country with renewed optimism about its team's summer prospects. The continuing absence of Paul Gascoigne notwithstanding, now that Shearer is back, all guns blazing, suddenly it seems as though the sky is the limit again.

It means that in games like that on Wednesday night — games that could swing either way, where luck plays a part but where finishing takes over — England will always have at least an even chance. There will be plenty of those this summer, and with Shearer in the side, England's opponents will never be able to rest.

"He is quite fresh," Hoddle said. "That is the beauty of it. He is the No 1 goalscorer in this country and he is pretty fresh. We have just got to keep our fingers crossed that he does not pick up another injury.

"He has proven that he can score goals in the European championship. He is champing at the bit to prove that he can do it in the World Cup and that is the *crème de la crème*. If we create the chances for him, he only needs one, maybe two, to put one away, and he proved tonight what he is capable of.

"I think Ronaldo and Romario are two other players who can win you a game with their finishing. I think Batistuta, for Argentina, is an accomplished finisher, but whether he can do it at World Cup level we will have to wait and see. Apart from that, you are struggling to find a born goalscorer.

"There is Klinsmann, who is having an indifferent time at the moment. Del Piero has done well in Europe and in league football, but he is finding it hard to get going in the Italian national side and bed things down. At the moment, there is a lack of world strikers with that sort of capability.

"I don't think I would swap Shearer for anyone. He is the skipper. He leads by example and hard work is not a dirty word to him. He works as hard as anyone. He gets on with his business. There is nothing flash about the lad. You know you are secure in your mind that he is not going to do anything outrageous that will set alarm bells ringing all around the country.

"He is a better all-round finisher than Ronaldo. What Ronaldo has got over Alan is that he will create more goals for himself off the back of individual play. Brazil are the best offensive side in the world and it would be interesting to see, if you put Alan Shearer in their side, how many goals he would score."

The question of supply becomes slightly vexed when Gascoigne is absent, but Paul Scholes showed more encouraging signs on Wednesday night that he could become an able deputy: not quite as incisive with his running on the ball, perhaps, but just as invasive with his passing and more probing with his runs off the ball into goalscoring positions.

However, if the performances of stalwarts like Shearer, Seaman and Graeme Le Saux gave Hoddle reasons to feel secure again, in many ways the biggest plusses of the night came in the cameos of Michael Owen and Paul Merson, both of whom moved much higher in the scramble for places in the final World Cup squad of 22.

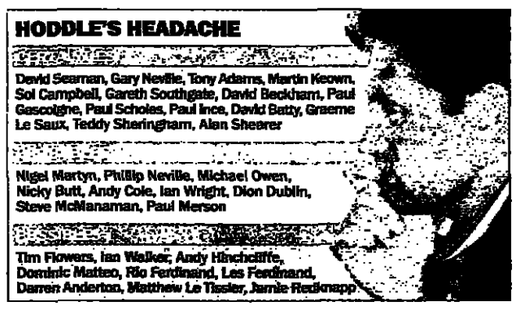
Merson, a second-half substitute for the disappointing David Beckham, gave England the width on the right that they had craved so openly in the first 45 minutes. When he drifted inside, he linked well with Scholes and gave the team another creative edge.

Owen was electric in the 13 minutes that he was allowed after replacing the fading Sheringham, who scored England's second goal. Sheringham is limping his way towards France, making the road look long and hard, while Owen is eating it up. He was like a supercharged burst of energy when he came on against Portugal, bemusing the visitors with his speed. If Hoddle persists with Sheringham, Owen will be the perfect player to bring off the bench.

Both men should have done enough now to make it into that 22. With Darren Anderton and Matthew Le Tissier making late claims, too, the competition is getting lively again. Someone suggested that it would just make for complications. "But what lovely complications to have," Hoddle said.



Shearer's recovery from injury has renewed optimism about England's chances in France



Defiant White justifies show of optimism in striking success

BY PHIL YATES

WHEN Jimmy White was beaten 5-4 by Mark Gray, a fellow left-hander languishing in 150th position in the world rankings, in his opening match at the British Open three weeks ago, it was impossible to imagine him unduly troubling Stephen Hendry in the Embassy world snooker championship.

At 35, White's celebrity far exceeded his recent achievements. He lost his first 11 matches of the 1996-97 season to be relegated from the top 16 in the rankings after 15 years of unbroken occupation.

He has not captured a title of any description since the 1993 European League or a ranking event title since the 1992 United Kingdom championship. Yet, all season, White has insisted that he is striking the ball sweetly in practice. At times it was hard not to be cynical.

By establishing an 8-1 lead over Stephen Hendry in the first round on Wednesday, White conclusively proved his doubters wrong. Hendry did not play badly, White was in vintage form.

A break of 106 in the first frame was bolstered by a black-ball success in the second from 67 points adrift, and suddenly White was able to convert that encouraging practice form into match sharpness.

Hendry was shocked, justifiably. He has played and beaten White four times this season and on each occasion, particularly at the Thailand Masters and Liverpool Victoria Charity Challenge, without performing well.

Despite enjoying such a commanding advantage, White resisted the temptation of premature celebration. He has been on the end of too many Hendry fightbacks.

White resumed last night requiring only two of the remaining ten frames. In 1992, he needed only four of 13 to lift the trophy but, from 14-8 down, Hendry reeled off ten consecutive frames to complete one of his four victories over White in a world championship final.

If White can repel the demons of doubt, the next task will be to avoid over-excitement. He has every reason to be genuinely optimistic of an extended run, but Darren Morgan, who beat O'Sullivan for a quarter-final place last year, would be no pushover.

It was ironic that Hendry was presented yesterday with a clock by the tournament sponsors in recognition of his triumph in the Thailand Masters last month. It was his 29th in world ranking tournaments, a record.

First-round elimination for Hendry, a six-time Crucible winner, would leave the door open for John Higgins, his compatriot, to end his eight-season reign as world No 1. However, Higgins, who would need to win the championship, encountered problems of his own.

After the opening session of a best-of-25-frame second-round match against Anthony Hamilton, of Nottingham,



White: in command

Higgins was 6-2 behind, looking decidedly vulnerable from the moment he missed a routine green to build a 3-1 lead.

From that juncture, Hamilton, who highlighted a 108 victory over Dave Harold in the previous round with three century breaks, held sway. Runs of 88, 82 and 115 pushed him 5-2 ahead before he won a tactical eighth frame of 51 minutes' duration.

Alain Robidoux, whose cue was vandalised last summer, ended a barren season with an eleventh consecutive defeat. The French Canadian, who has employed more than 30 potential replacement cues to no avail, lost 10-8 to Matthew Stevens, of Carmarthen.

Results, page 49

Ince assault brings security review

BY DAVID MADDOCK

THE assault on Paul Ince by a supporter following England's game against Portugal on Wednesday evening will trigger a full security review at Wembley, a Football Association spokesman said. The incident occurred at midnight when the midfield player was leaving the stadium with his wife, Claire, and Steve McManaman, his Liverpool teammate.

McManaman said the attack occurred after a fan had asked to be photographed with the England pair. Ince, who sustained only a sore lip, was bundled into his waiting car by his wife and McManaman while a man was caught and detained by security staff. Police later arrested and questioned a 33-year-old man from Chelmsford and released him on bail until May 7.

Ince, who had helped England to a 3-0 victory, was able to travel straight back to Liverpool, but he admitted he had been angered. "My wife was with me, and for her to witness it was not very nice. I'm treating this as an isolated incident."

Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said there would be an in-depth assessment of the security for England players. "Together with Wembley we will be reviewing the security of the players," he said. "We have always felt that it is important that the fans should have the chance to see the players after the game.

"It's a shocking incident and it's the last thing you expect after an England victory. Paul was simply stopping to sign autographs, and in that particular area of the stadium there is a chance for the fans to mingle with the players. It's right and proper that that should happen. But what happened last night has cast a shadow over those arrangements."

Double added: "We don't want a situation where England players have to be surrounded by bodyguards when they leave the national stadium. That can't be right and shouldn't be allowed to happen. However, it is a privilege which has clearly been abused on this occasion, and we don't want to see it happen again."

There may be serious implications for England followers at the World Cup finals in France this summer. French police have long held suspicions about the intent of England supporters, and the fact that one has turned on his own team may reinforce those feelings.

There is also likely to be a small negative effect on England's chances of hosting the 2006 World Cup finals. Ince, though, clearly believes the incident was a rare one. "I don't think there will be a repeat. It was just a couple of people acting idiotically."

Aspell cleared over race-fixing claims

BY RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

LEIGHTON ASPELL, one of three National Hunt jockeys arrested by police investigating race-fixing allegations, was told yesterday that he will be released from bail without further questioning.

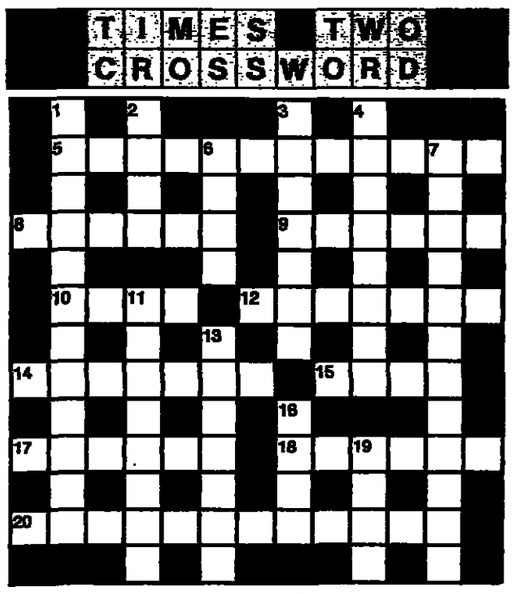
The young rider was arrested, together with Jamie Osborne and Dean Gallagher, in January by officers from the Metropolitan Police Organised Crime Squad. The trio were released on police bail, without charge, in connection with investigations into the doping of Avanti Express and Lively Knight last year and race-fixing allegations.

Aspell, who had been due to attend Charing Cross police station with Osborne and Gallagher next Wednesday, said: "I knew that I would be proved innocent in the long run, but the whole investigation has been very worrying for me and my family. I hope that this is an end to the whole matter as far as I am concerned and that Jamie and Dean will be released soon."

Richard Brooks, Aspell's solicitor, said: "Leighton has answered all questions put to him by the police and the Jockey Club. I do not believe that the police are in possession of any different information to that which they had prior to the arrest, so we are left to wonder why he was arrested in the first place.

"This episode may have caused untold damage to Leighton's reputation. He was arrested amid a blaze of publicity which was fuelled by some very unfortunate comments from figures in authority." The Jockey Club said last night that six other people arrested in connection with the police inquiries had been rebailed and that the investigation was continuing. No action against Aspell is expected.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1388

ACROSS
5 Obviousness (of disguise); a slide (12)
8 Loud horn (6)
9 Smother, suffocate (6)
10 A moment; a good mark (4)
12 Very old (7)
14 Pillar in road, on quay (7)
15 Collapsed; a moor (4)
17 Doghouse (6)
18 An ape; Edward —, historian (6)
20 One kissed for gift of cajolery (7,5)

DOWN
1 Sharp point of shoe (8,4)
2 Comedy brothers; socialist philosopher (4)
3 Momentary; going by (7)
4 Curative drink (8)
6 Mentally healthy (4)
7 A march; an average golfer (7,5)
11 Of cooking (8)
13 Supermarket cart (7)
16 Breakfast food; urges (on) (4)
19 Sea-lane marker (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1387
ACROSS: 1 Graffiti 5 Loss 8 Scour 9 Restive 11 Ant 12 Noises off 13 Excise 15 Hawser 18 Spiritual 19 Man 20 Blessed 21 Genoa 22 Rear 23 Textbook
DOWN: 1 Gestate 2 Abort 3 For one's sins 4 Turgid 6 Ominous 7 Sheaf 10 See daylight 14 Chimera 16 Ransack 17 Muddle 18 Sober 19 Mungo

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